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Champion
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COUNCIL UNVEILS 30-YEAR VISION FOR BOROUGH

...but opposition groups blast 'crazy' proposals

WEST Lancs Council has unveiled its development vision for the next 30 years, including the provision of nearly 16,000 new homes and 190 hectares of land for employment uses.

If approved by council's cabinet at its meeting next Tuesday (September 11) the Local Plan Review Preferred Options paper will undergo a six-week consultation beginning on Thursday, October 11.

However, the proposals have been criticised by both the Conservative group on the council and Our West Lancashire's Councillor Adrian Owens.

Conservative leader, Councillor David Westley, said: "Labour's intention to scrap the existing Local Plan is crazy. It still has nine years to run, is meeting local housing need and has withstood legal challenges in respect of rogue developments.

"They want to replace it with a completely new Local Plan covering an unprecedented 30 years."

Meanwhile, Cllr. Owens, a former deputy leader of the council, said the plans are based on "entirely the wrong premise" and with no deal to deliver the new road and rail links that would be required.

Included in the proposals - which incorporate commitments made in the existing 2012-2027 Local Plan - are plans for 8,572 new dwellings and 150 hectares of land for employment uses in Skelmersdale and the south-eastern parishes. It is proposed that 6,000 of these homes and 100 hectares of employment land will be delivered through the allocation of three new garden villages, a logistics park and extensions of White Moss Business Park to the west and south-west of Skelmersdale.

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Attractive

The council says this would make a significant contribution to the business case for creating a Skelmersdale rail link, make development proposals in the town centre more attractive to businesses and create a wide range of new job opportunities in growing business sectors.

Ormskirk and Aughton have been earmarked for significant housing development of 3,000 dwellings with 10 hectares of land for employment purposes.

Around 2,000 dwellings are proposed to be delivered through the creation of new garden neighbourhoods to the south-east of Ormskirk and Aughton.

Around 20 hectares of land will also be set aside to the south of St Helens Road to deliver a new Knowledge Park to accommodate businesses,

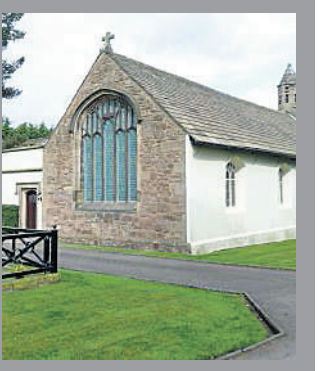
The council says that this development will attract new, hi-tech businesses to Ormskirk and provide much-needed purpose-built student accommodation to alleviate the demand for houses of multiple occupation. It will also enable university graduates to stay in West Lancashire by offering more of the right type of jobs and accommodation for young professionals to buy and rent, and support Ormskirk town centre businesses.

Housing and employment land allocations for the rest of the borough include 1,495 dwellings for Burscough and the central parishes along with 25 hectares for employment uses; 1,435 dwellings for northern parishes with five hectares for

Continued on Page 2

Map detailing some of the proposed development in the Local Plan Review Preferred Options paper.

INSIDE THIS WEEK...



Second War Horse Walk

Bobby Dazzlers

CROSSWORD
See Page 30

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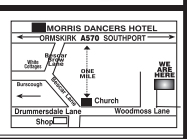

Council cabinet to consider proposed Preferred Options for Local Plan Review

From Page 1

employment, 923 dwellings for the western parishes and 564 dwellings for the eastern parishes.

The report for the cabinet outlining the 'preferred options', which will also go before the planning committee on Thursday (September 6), was prepared by the director of development and regeneration, John Harrison.

He said: "By planning so far into the future, the Local Plan gives greater certainty about where development will take place over the next 30 years. It will enable the council to better manage new development in a way that creates more sustainable communities, provides homes for all parts of the community and takes advantage of opportunities emerging from the anticipated economic growth, including those stimulated by the expanded Port of Liverpool.

"Alongside this, a longer-term Local Plan can create the opportunities to deliver the infrastructure that new development will need and health and wellbeing benefits for the residents of West Lancashire.

"A robust Local Plan also means the council will be in a better position to make planning decisions so they are done at a local level rather than being made by a national planning inspector."

If approved by the cabinet, residents in the borough will be provided details of the consultation, where they can attend to ask questions of council officers, and how they can comment.

However, Councillor Westley accused the council of not appreciating the importance of Green Belt.

Councillor David Westley.

Councillor Adrian Owens.

He said: "Labour also want to ditch the established practice of safeguarding sites identified for future development. This would mean the council abdicating its responsibility to manage the release of sites and allow developers, or as Labour say the 'market', to decide which sites should be developed first. It would also mean that all the sites needed for the next 30 years would be made available for development from 2020.

'Irresponsible'

"Apart from wanting a huge increase in the annual target for both house building and commercial development, Labour want to provide land to meet the housing and commercial development needs of Merseyside - 6,256 new homes and hundreds of acres of new industrial estates.

"The official figure for population growth in West Lancashire is 6,000 by 2041 and this can be met by the existing Local Plan yet Labour want to triple this rate of growth by attracting large numbers into the borough from neighbouring areas.

"The Conservatives insist that land for future housing in the borough should be strictly limited to that required to meet the local need with the maximum use being made of brownfield sites. Releasing Green Belt land should only be done as a last resort.

"Labour's plans are irresponsible and if implemented, would have a devastating impact right across West Lancashire. They simply do not appreciate the importance of our Green Belt."

Meanwhile, Cllr. Owens said that the current Local Plan is working well and protecting Green Belt and that many of the proposed new houses would be built on prime farming land and the rural area around Skelmersdale would be changed beyond recognition.

He said: "The council have currently allocated enough land for development until 2027. "The only reason that Labour are having to allocate so much additional land for house building now is because they have chosen to meet the housing needs of Merseyside authorities to the tune of around 6,500 homes and run the plan over an enormous 38-year period.

"The result will be that the prime, large sites will be snapped up first and developed rapidly by large house builders, and all this without even any promise of any significant extra road or rail links."

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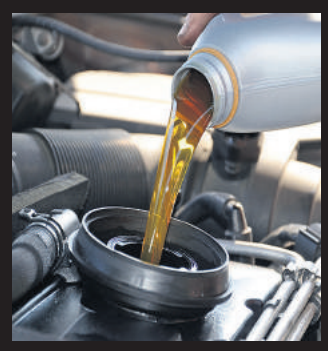

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Women attacked on bus after complaining about rowdy group

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

AN appeal has been launched to track down a man and woman who assaulted and verbally abused two passengers on a bus near to the New Fleetwood Pub in Banks.

The passengers - a mother and her daughter - were travelling on an early evening Stagecoach bus from Southport to Preston when they were confronted by the pair. The mum, aged 56, was dragged off the vehicle by her hair and the daughter, 39 was dragged into a bush before the mum was then punched in the face.

The shocking incident happened in July but police have only just released an appeal to find the offenders.

The man had stepped onto the bus holding a pint pot in his hand and both he and the woman, say police, were 'under the influence of alcohol'.

It is believed that the two women passengers had complained about the conduct of a group of people on the bus.

The pair subjected the woman and her daughter to verbal abuse with the mother being dragged off the bus by her hair by the female offender, who also dragged the daughter into a bush. The man punched the mother in the face.

The police would like to speak to this man and woman

The woman offender is described as white, in her late-40s with shoulder-length, brown hair. She was wearing a white top, orange trousers, an orange scarf and had orange painted fingernails.

The man was white, around 5ft 6ins, of stocky build with short brown and greying hair and facial stubble. He was wearing a navy blue shirt.

Aggressive

PC Dave Rigby from Tarleton Police said: "The two victims are understandably shaken by their ordeal which began after a complaint to the bus driver about a noisy, aggressive group of passengers who were banging on the floor of the top deck and shouting.

"We need anyone who recognises these people to come forward and speak to us. Similarly if you were on the bus at the time and have any information that could assist with our investigation, please get in touch."

Stagecoach's website outlines in its 'conditions of carriage' that customers must "behave in a manner that is not abusive or threatening and does not cause offence to other customers or staff; refrain from consuming alcohol and must refrain from playing loud music at a volume which may be heard by other passengers."

A spokesperson for the company told the Champion that they are unable to comment on this incident as it is an ongoing police investigation. They said that they will continue to do 'everything they can' to assist officers with the inquiry.

Anyone with information can contact Lancashire Police on 01772 412987 or 101, or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

MP to meet with United Utilities and regulator over 'Parbold Pong'

ROSIE Cooper has secured meetings with directors at both United Utilities and water regulator, Ofwat to discuss residents' concerns over the 'Parbold Pong'.

For years residents of Parbold, Appley Bridge and surrounding areas have complained of foul-smelling odours emanating from the nearby Wigan Wastewater Treatment Works.

The West Lancs MP has previously met with parish councillors, residents and United Utilities in a bid to get a permanent solution to the ongoing situation. But despite repeated assurances and United Utilities undertaking work on the site, after short periods of respite the smells reappear.

The water company has agreed to again meet with Ms Cooper, representatives from the parish council and local residents on site to explain what action is being taken.

She has also secured a meeting with Ofwat officials.

Rosie Cooper said: "The parish council have done all they can and followed the formal channels meeting with and negotiating with United Utilities, but they feel they have just been abandoned by all the agencies in their quest for fresh, clean air.

"United Utilities has now agreed to meet with me along with Parbold Parish Council representatives and some local residents, when I will be pushing for a permanent fix to this problem.

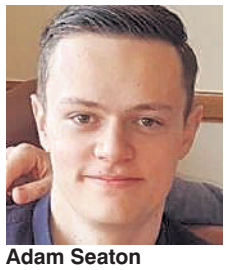
"And having raised this issue with the chief executive of Ofwat, who regulate United Utilities, they have also agreed to meet with me to see how they can assist.

"I will keep pushing these agencies for a solution until residents are satisfied with the actions being taken."

Family of missing Edge Hill student launch social media diary

THE family of an Edge Hill student who has been missing for nearly five weeks have created a social media page to keep people up to date on the search to find him.

Adam Seaton, 20, a geography student at the Ormskirk university, is believed to have gone missing from his home in Melrose Avenue in the Marshside area of Southport on Thursday, August 9. His car, a red Ford Fiesta was left on the nearby RSPB nature reserve car park.



Adam Seaton

Since he vanished, extensive searches have been taking place by the emergency services. A group of 50 members of his family and friends, including his parents, Karen and Andy, and his sister, also took part in a search of marshland.

The family have set up an account on Twitter under the handle @FindAdamSeaton and a page on social media site Facebook, Adam Missing Marshside/Southport, which is already being followed by more than 7,000 users.

His mum recently posted : "Upon the realisation that our lovely son Adam has been missing for 21 days and feeling like our life has stopped for the past 504 hours and counting, we have realised that we must keep Adam in the forefront of everybody's mind.

"So we are launching Adam's Day to Day Diary. Here we will keep you all updated about our ongoing search. We welcome any ideas that you may have to progress our search and keep him in the public eye."

Petition launched for traffic light cameras on County Road junctions

CURRENT proposals to tackle the number of collisions on Ormskirk's County Road by reducing the speed limit don't go far enough say local campaigners.

Local members of Our West Lancashire say that trafffic light enforcement cameras also need to be installed at local junctions to reduce the injury toll.

The independent party has organised a petition to have cameras at the Fiveways and Green Lane/Hayfield Road traffic light junctions.

Lancashire County Council are currently consulting on reducing the speed limit on High Lane and County Road from 40mph to 30mph.

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Parish council seeks to allay farmers' fears over Local Plan review

Report by **Kenny Parker**

BICKERSTAFFE Parish Council has sought to calm fears that tenant farmers are going to be turfed off their properties due to landlords selling their land for development.

The parish council distributed a survey for local residents asking for their opinions on Green Belt land that landlords have offered up for development as part of the borough-wide Local Plan review.

But although the survey has prompted concern among some residents and farmers, the parish council has emphasised they are just proposals.

The borough council's lead on planning has also said the proposals are a landlords' "wish list" and said many factors need to be taken into consideration.

The offerings of land were made to West Lancs Council as part of the Strategic Housing and Employment Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) and will be considered during the Local Plan review this autumn.

A map of the plots offered shows that a number of farms will be affected and a tenant farmer contacted the Champion to say that the newsletter informing them of the survey was the first they had heard of the plans.

The farmer said the land is quality agricultural land that has been farmed for generations, adding that they are now in fear for their livelihood.

She said: "Why would you want to put farmers out of business to build houses and employment parks on them? Farmers farm hundreds of acres around here where is all that food going to come from when they aren't farming in the area?"

Bickerstaffe resident Jayne Heeney also contacted us to express her concerns. She said: "I feel very strongly about this, particularly when I studied the map to find large strips of land proposed for building development to include large expanses of land earmarked in the Barrow Nook area of Bickerstaffe and at land near to Bickerstaffe waterworks."

Jackie Smith, clerk of Bickerstaffe Parish Council, said: "These are only proposals at the moment and the borough council will consider which sites to include in the Local Plan Review and will seek the views of the public in the autumn on their selected 'Preferred Options'. The parish council considers it to be very important that residents' views are taken into account and seeks to co-ordinate a response."

Factors

Councillor John Hodson, West Lancs Council's portfolio holder for planning and chair of the Local Plan cabinet working group, said: "In regard to the SHELAA, it always stirs rumours as to what is going to take place but it should be understood that this is basically a 'wish list' for land owners. It is an indication of all the land which they have submitted for consideration to be included in the new Local Plan for all types of development and/or designations.

"It does not mean that it will automatically be included for such as there are many factors to be taken into consideration."

A statement from landlord Stanley Estates, read: "There is a national housing crisis in the country and all local authorities are tasked by central Government with reviewing their development sites within their existing allocation and addressing any shortfall by looking at potential greenbelt release.

"The Local Plan review is being led by the council and there will be a further public consultation in the autumn to work towards their preferred options stage. The estate will be working with the farming community, estate tenants and the local community to support a sustainable and vibrant future for the area."

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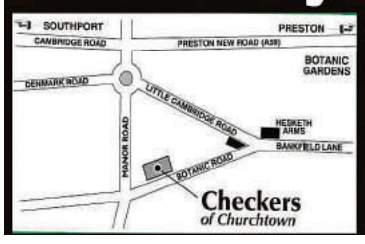

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Shadow Climate Change Minister, Barry Gardiner, Sefton Central MP Bill Esterson and West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper with Moss Alliance anti-fracking campaigners at Altcar Moss.

Shadow Minister in vow to continue fight against fracking

LABOUR's Shadow Climate Change Minister, Barry Gardiner met up with anti-fracking campaigners to show support for their campaign.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper invited Mr Gardiner to the proposed fracking site at Altcar to see first-hand the area that would be affected by the industry and to hear from local residents about their environmental and health concerns.

As part of the visit, Ms Cooper and Mr Gardiner also visited the fracking site at Preston New Road in Fylde to get an idea of the scale of these operations which could be replicated on the West Lancs moss within a matter of years.

Rosie Cooper said: "I'm delighted that Barry came to visit West Lancashire and see the land at Altcar which is now under threat from an imminent planning application from Aurora Energy.

"As a party, we have been clear on our position on fracking that we oppose it while there are still environmental and public health uncertainties.

"I oppose all plans to frack in this country and like many residents, am worried by Aurora's plans to frack here in Altcar, West Lancashire. I have contacted Lancashire County Council, the Environment Agency and Public Health England to raise my concerns over the impact fracking would have on my constituents and I will continue to work closely with local anti-fracking groups as we continue the campaign."

Barry Gardiner said: "It was important for me to come and speak to local people in West Lancashire and to hear first-hand the impact that fracking at Altcar and Preston New Road will have on their lives.

"Campaigners at both sites made clear to me the anxiety, upset and anger that fracking is bringing to those living in these communities. And all around the UK people are telling us clearly they do not want fracking rolled out to devastate our countryside and threaten our health and wellbeing.

"I commend Rosie, the Moss Alliance and all the campaigners at both sites for their continued opposition to this industry. I promise them that Labour will continue to fight the Government every step of the way to protect our communities and build a sustainable low-carbon future."

Call for county council to act on 'danger' road

Report by **Kenny Parker**

CALLS are being made for Lancashire County Council to repair the surface of a road in West Lancashire after claims that potholes are causing a danger to cyclists.

Bold Lane, near Aughton, was the scene of a recent fatal accident when Melling Parish Councillor and keen cyclist Alison Doyle, 47, was killed on Sunday, August 19 when her bicycle collided with a car.

While the cause of that accident is still being investigated, several local cyclists and motorists have contacted the Champion to say they always feared the poor state of the road surface could lead to accidents.

Lydiate Parish Councillor Tony Robertson who frequently cycles the roads of West Lancashire, said: "Bold Lane has been in poor condition for far too long.

"Indeed I have avoided cycling it over the past few months because of its poor condition

"Lancashire County Council have to look at their monitoring and repair works process to ensure that they are picking up and fixing roads far more quickly.

The councillor had written in his blog in February, complaining about the poor state of the roads in West Lancashire compared to Sefton.

Bold Lane was one of three particularly bad roads he identified, which he called "a dodge the pot-hole slalom ride."

Meanwhile resident David Campbell wrote to the Champion to say he had contacted Lancashire County Council several times on the matter of the dangerous pot holes and degraded surface.

He said: "I still have all of the emails as I thought I may need them if damage occurred to my car as two people had burst tyres within 20 minutes of each other around three months ago."

Police say they are still investigating the incident "with one strand of enquiry being the road surface."

A spokesman for Lancashire County Council said: "Our thoughts are with Alison Doyle's family and friends at this very difficult time.

"We are helping the police with their investigation however it would not be appropriate to comment further while this work is ongoing."

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Deal struck in Merseyrail guards dispute

Agreement paves way for second member of staff on new trains

Report by **Tom Martin**

A DEAL has been struck which should clear the way for a second staff member to be employed on board the new Merseyrail trains - effectively bringing to an end to the long-running dispute over guards.

The move has been welcomed by both the rail company and union officials.

Merseyrail, the RMT Union and the Liverpool City Region Combined Authority issued a joint statement last Friday which they say has been achieved through a "compromise on all sides."

The statement read:The statement read: "The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, Merseyrail and the RMT Union have today agreed in principle that, subject to the provision and approval of an appropriate, affordable and sustainable funding package, the new fleet of Merseyrail trains, will have a second member of staff on board the train.

"In order to pay for a second member of staff on each train additional funding will now need to be generated. Productivity proposals have come forward from the ACAS process that will cover some of the required funding, however additional means will also need to be considered by all parties, which could include an enhanced crackdown on fare evasion and increased fares.

The new trains will come into use in 2021.

"The design of the new trains means that the door control and dispatch of the trains will transfer to the driver. No one currently employed as a guard will lose their employment as a result of the introduction of the new fleet in 2021.

"All parties will now undertake the detailed work required to develop a full proposed agreement, which will take some months and will require compromise on all sides.

"An element of this will be agreeing the role and safety responsibilities of this second member of staff as part of the process. The current business case will need to be revisited. Whilst this takes place and until dialogue has been completed there will be no further industrial action."

Merseyrail managing director, Andy Heath, said: "Merseyrail and its shareholders have given our support to this agreement as we have always been clear that any dispute between us and the RMT will only be resolved through talks.

"The commitment from the RMT to continue the suspension of industrial action during this review period will undoubtedly help maintain the continuity of the current phase of ACAS conciliation which will allow us to plan our operational delivery around the major programme of Merseyrail platform modifications and the major events between now and the end of the year.

"During this phase of conciliation we will continue our engagement with both the Combined Authority and the RMT as we explore the feasibility and affordability of a solution to keeping a second person on the new trains."

RMT General Secretary, Mick Cash said: "This agreement in principle is an important and significant development in respect of RMT's long-running campaign to retain a guaranteed second, safety-critical member of staff on Merseyrail trains."

Victoria Park homes plan will fund club's new stadium

PLANS to build a housing estate on Burscough FC's Victoria Park ground have been submitted to West Lancs Council.

And the club has welcomed the scheme saying that money generated from the sale of the land will pay for the building of a modern new stadium.

Planning permission for a new stadium to be built to the north west of the present ground was granted last year. It includes a two-storey main stand and clubhouse, a single-storey secondary stand, floodlighting, hard standings and car park.

The planning application for the Victoria Park site, submitted by social housing group Torus, is to build 52 houses. It will involve the demolition of the existing football ground, social club and associated buildings.

The proposed new homes will all be 'affordable' and comprise 11 two-bed houses and 10 two-bed apartments for rent for those over 55 years old, along with four two-bed, 21 three-bed, and six four-bed houses for shared ownership.

A 'planning statement' accompanying the application, states: "The redevelopment of the former football ground will secure the long-term future of the club and in doing so will result in the protection of existing jobs and the creation of new roles at the club. When home games are held this will also result in spin-off economic benefits for other businesses in the town."

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Families urged to talk about organ donation

'Words Save Lives' is the message of NHS Blood and Transplant donor recruitment campaign

FAMILIES in Lancashire are being urged to talk during Organ Donation Week (September 3 to 9) as new figures show 65 people in the county have died waiting for a transplant in the last five years.

Tragically, despite the fact more and more people are supporting donating their loved one's organs, there is still an urgent need for more people to support donation.

NHS Blood and Transplant is now urging more people in Lancashire to tell their families that they want to save lives through organ donation.

Last year, 134 people in Lancashire had their lives saved by a transplant. If more people agreed to donate, more lives would be saved in Lancashire and around the country.

And although the number of donors is increasing and waiting lists are reducing, right now there are around 6,000 people waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant across the UK.

During Organ Donation Week, the NHS is urging families to talk about donation with the message 'Words Save Lives'.

The new pink NHS Blood and Transplant organ donor card.

Shocking

Councils and organisations around the country are lighting prominent buildings pink, the colour of the modern donor card, in support of the country's organ donation campaign.

Anthony Clarkson, Interim Director of Organ Donation and Transplantation for NHS Blood and Transplant, said: "It's tragic that so many people from Lancashire have died waiting for a transplant - what is shocking is that many of those lives could have been saved, had more families agreed to donate organs.

"People are dying every day because some families are not talking about donation. We need more families in Lancashire to say yes to organ donation, so that more lives can be saved."

He added: "We all know that organ donation legislation will change to a deemed consent system in England and Scotland in future years but the harsh fact is people are dying right now waiting for an organ and it will still be important for people to know your decision.

"We don't want people to die because of a fatal complacency that because you know you want to be an organ donor you presume your loved ones know it too.

"Please, let your family know your decision and ask them if they want to be donors. Don't leave your family guessing what you would have wanted to happen.

"We know that many families feel enormous pride and comfort at knowing that their relative went on to save lives through the gift of organ donation."

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Second War Horse Walk organised

Council teams up with local groups to mark 100th anniversary of end of First World War

FOLLOWING the successful relaunch of the War Horse Walking route in May a second walk has been organised to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War.

Lathom Park Chapel

West Lancs Council is working with Lathom Park Chapel, Lathom Park Trust and the Aughton & Ormskirk U3A group to organise a free guided walk of the route on Saturday (September 8) starting at 10am from Ormskirk railway station car park.

Along the way local historians from Lathom Park Trust and Lathom Park Chapel will tell the story of the war horses and the contribution they made. The walk will also be assisted by members of the council's Parks and Countryside Ranger Service.

The route will mostly follow that taken by horses that had been brought from all over the world to Ormskirk station via Liverpool docks. They were then walked through the streets of Ormskirk to Lathom and the remount depot at Lathom Park. Subsequently a railway was built to transport horses directly from the docks to the depot.

On the day of the guided walk there are two options as follows:

1. Take the guided walk from Ormskirk to Lathom Park Chapel where refreshments will be enjoyed returning via the outward route. Distance approximately 5.5 miles.

2. Take the guided walk from Ormskirk to Lathom Park Chapel and stop for refreshments before continuing by one of several routes e.g., through Lathom and Ruff Wood before returning to Ormskirk. Distance about six to eight miles.

The council has also re-produced a leaflet which will allow walkers to choose and follow a route themselves. Copies are available from the council offices; CSP at the Concourse shopping centre, Skelmersdale; Ormskirk library and Southport Eco Centre. It is also available to download at www.DiscoverOrmskirk.com.

John Harrison, the council's director of development and regeneration, said: "More than 150 people attended the re-launch of the walking route in May and this latest event will mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War."

Although there is no need to book before the day it would be helpful for organisers to know numbers and people are asked to contact the council on 01695 712645 between 9am and 5pm if you are interested.

Walkers should arrive 15 minutes before departure time, wear suitable footwear and clothing. Children under the age of 16 should be accompanied by an adult.

Car parking is available at Ormskirk station but walkers are requested to use public transport where possible. Help for planning your journey is available at http://traveline.info.

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Bobby-Dazzlers!

Young gymnasts shine on international bow

Report by **Kenny Parker**

The young Dazzlers with their medals.

A TEAM of talented young gymnasts from West Lancashire have surpassed all expectations by returning from their first overseas competition with a hoard of medals.

Due to limited resources, Dazzlers Gymnastics Club - which meets at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College, Skelmersdale, and Burscough Sports Centre - had to overcome the odds to win a place at the Independent Association of Independent Gymnastics Clubs World Championships in Orlando, Florida.

And after securing their place, head coach Shelly Murphy said medals were not a priority and she just wanted her young charges to enjoy the experience,

But they did her - and themselves - proud by securing top spots in various rounds and being well placed in others.

The competition was organised over seven levels and according to age.

Among the list of impressive achievements of the Dazzlers were Lois Bowness, 13, who won gold for her age category at Level 3 in beam; Georgina Barklem, also 13, who won gold for her age category at Level 2 in floor; and eight-year-old Isla Sharrock, who won gold in the 7 to 9-year-olds tumble competition.

And clubmates Sophie Holmes, 10 and 12-year-olds Ava Clarke and Bethany Rimmer also shone, taking first, second and third place respectively in the 10 years and over age category for tumble.

Shelly said: "I am amazingly proud of my Dazzlers. We were the smallest club from the UK that entered the IAIGC World Championship.

"Even though the medals are fantastic, it wasn't something that was the priority at this big competition - but wow we did bring some home! Our Dazzler gymnasts did us proud."

To take part each of the children had to obtain a qualifying score at IAIGC competitions against rivals from big clubs with fully-kitted gym centres, while the Dazzlers train on mats and an old-style box, and only get one hour on the full-size beam and bars during their weekly session at Burscough.

Fundraising events were held to cover the cost of the trip with a local care home and businesses helping out, while Sophie Holmes' father Ste was sponsored to do 4,251 burpees - the equivalent in miles to Orlando - in 24 hours.

Shelly added: "We are incredibly grateful for all the help from family and friends; Birch Green Care Home in Skelmersdale; Fun Factor, Maghull; Bobbie Goulding Fitness and Training; Ste Holmes and everyone who donated at our bag-packing at Tesco in Burscough.

"The money raised covered the cost of entry and insurance, kit to make them look the part and all the extras to make them feel special, leaving the families to pay for flights and accommodation."

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Information evening for potential adopters

County council seeking permanent loving homes for youngsters unable to live with birth family

LANCASHIRE County Council is holding another of its information evenings for people thinking about starting or growing their family through adoption.

This will be held on Tuesday, September 11 at County Hall, Preston, from 6 to 7.30pm.

Following a short presentation, members of the authority's adoption team, including social workers, will be available to answer questions, talk people through the process and offer confidential advice.

County Councillor Susie Charles, cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "We need people from all backgrounds to offer a permanent home and family to children who are not able to live with their birth family.

"You must be over 21 and live in Lancashire or close by, but whatever your race, gender, sexuality, living arrangements, age or employment status, we want to hear from you.

"What matters are your personal qualities and that you are able to provide a loving home where you can support and look after a child throughout their childhood and beyond."

County Councillor Susie Charles

Adoptive parents are needed for children from young babies up to eight years of age while there is particular need for people willing to keep families together by adopting siblings. Brothers and sisters are among the children who wait longest to be adopted as there are not enough people coming forward who are able to give them a safe, permanent and loving family.

Among the 91 Lancashire children currently ready to be adopted, there are 12 two-sibling groups and three three-sibling groups.

Councillor Charles added: "I'm hoping that we can encourage people to at least think about adopting two or more children.

"We keep brothers and sisters together whenever we can. For children who cannot be brought up by their own parents, those sibling relationships take on extra importance.

"In the midst of the trauma and losses these children experience, being placed with a brother or sister can be an important source of comfort and support, and give them the opportunity to grow up together.

"However, we know that adopting siblings might not be for everyone and we still need adopters to come forward to look after children of all different ages and circumstances."

There's no need to book for the adoption information evening, you can just turn up. Free parking is available on the Arthur Street car park, next to County Hall, and the Pitt Street entrance is accessible for disabled people.

Further details about the evening and adoption in general are available online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/adoption or by calling the adoption team on 0300 123 6723.

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Tom aims to spin his way to career in county cricket

Report by **Henry James**

A YOUNG member of Ormskirk cricket club has got his sights set on making the grade in the first class game after turning in some impressive performances in the Lancashire set-up this season.

Left arm spin bowler Tom Hartley has been playing for the Red Rose side's second team this summer and is hoping to break into the first team soon.

The 19-year-old from Lydiate has secured a regular spot in the county's second XI, playing five or six days a week over the last few months and helping the team get to the T20 Cup final.

Tom Hartley in action

Experience

And sporting prowess clearly runs in the family - although with the emphasis on speed rather than spin, as dad Bill represented England in athletics, winning a silver medal in the 400 metre hurdles at the Commonwealth Games and gold in the relay at the European Games.

Tom started playing cricket at Merchant Taylors' School in Crosby, and after finishing school, deferred his place at Leeds University to take a year out to play cricket in Melbourne, Australia.

He said: "It has been a good, but surreal experience to play for Lancashire 2nd XI with some of the greats of the game in the Lancashire second team, such as Shivnarine Chanderpaul.

"While I have played for the county, I have learnt how important awareness is.

"It has been good fun, I have enjoyed it and it has brought my game to a whole new level. There are long days in the field but if you win it is worthwhile."

Tom's best figures for Lancashire were in the T20 final against Essex at Arundel in Sussex when he took three wickets for 12 runs off his two overs. Lancs were defending 66 runs and went onto win.

As for his ambitions in the sport, he said he would like to establish himself in the Lancashire first team and win the National Cup final with Ormskirk.

"We reached the final last year, so we would like to go one better this year."

Proud dad Bill said: "Tom is doing well and has had an interesting experience so far and had a good summer of cricket."

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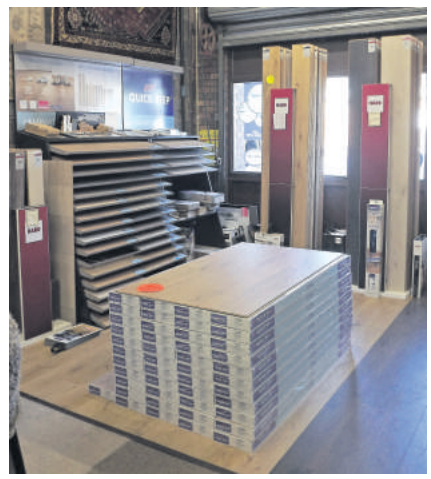

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
tel 01704 392 400 email editor@champnews.com

Speed limit on *that* stretch of County Road should be 30mph - maximum!

RE: The Hayfield Road/County Road/Green Lane junction in Ormskirk.

Whilst generally agreeing with Mr Pagett's letter (Champion, August 29) regarding full facts of accidents on County Road in Ormskirk, I was left a little puzzled as to whether he was for or against reducing the speed limit on County Road.

His example of an under 30mph accident, resulting in devastating and life-threatening injuries, made me think he would be in favour. After all, anything faster could have resulted in a fatality.

In March 2015, on a dark, rainy morning, I was stationary at the Hayfield Road junction with County Road/Green Lane, intending to turn right.

I set off on green and, just as I got to the main road, an articulated lorry came from my right, through a red light.

He hit my offside front wing.

If I'd travelled another meter, he would have hit the driver's door - and me!

Thankfully, I was left with just aches and pains, mainly from the seat belt, but my car was written off.

The driver was foreign. The cab had a Polish registration plate and the trailer a French one.

The police told me he was doing 30mph and didn't see the red light because he was looking at his sat-nav, not knowing where he was. They cautioned him.

As Mr Pagett points out, there are numerous permutations regarding the causes of such accidents. However, I know what speed limit I'd prefer on that stretch of County Road - 30mph maximum.

Mr A. Prescott, Scarisbrick.

New parking meters are another 'own goal' for decision-makers

ONCE again the council have surpassed themselves by ensuring that those using the new parking meters have to type in their registration number into the machine to get a ticket.

You therefore have to stoop down to use a keypad in which the numbers are small and difficult to manage.

No doubt this is to ensure that tickets are not passed around when someone leaves the car park and has some free time left.

It would be great if whoever made this decision to install this income generator to go and see the impact this has on a number of visitors, predominantly elderly, who have difficulty navigating this.

I was in a queue of seven people trying to get the tickets and I ended up assisting three people use the meter.

All passed comment how stupid this was, and a couple of ladies were embarrassed and will be reluctant to return.

Another own goal for our decision makers who feel that providing a parking meter that is a challenge to use for some visitors that offers no change is the way forward.

Ormskirk resident, details supplied.

PICTURE of the week

Brian Dobson, of Hesketh Bank Allotments and Leisure Gardeners, with some of his home grown produce which featured in last Saturday's summer show at their Shore Road site. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Cyclists can be rude and careless too!

IN reference to Brian Sprague's letter regarding motorists becoming better drivers (Champion, August 29) perhaps cyclists could try a walk now and then and see how careless and rude cyclists can be at times.

None seem to use a bell - obviously not cool on their dream machines - and they expect pedestrians to move without asking, or actually whistle at someone to shift!

My four-year-old granddaughter was nearly taken out by two cyclists riding dangerously fast and they didn't even stop to apologise or check she was all right. This on a country lane without pavements.

I know there are careless drivers but please don't think all cyclists are wonderful.

They're not. Especially those out on a Sunday morning, shouting at one another as they whizz along.

And don't get me started on those ignoring the perfectly suitable cycle path on the Coastal Road, choosing instead to ride on the road causing obstruction and creating potentially hazardous situations.

Rant over - for now.

Holmeswood walker,
by email (details supplied).

It's good to know there are some really nice people out there

I WOULD just like to thank the lovely, kind ladies who helped me with my shopping at B&M Burscough recently.

The first lady gave me her trolley as she could see I was struggling from the car and said she had recently been on crutches herself.

The second lady packed my shopping and put it in my car, ensuring my handbag and purse were safe, then took my trolley back for me.

It really meant so much to me as I was struggling and in so much pain with my torn knee cartilage.

Thanks so very much ladies. There really are some lovely kind people out there.

Jan Dean, Scarisbrick.

Drop us a line...

IF you've got a view on a topic of local or national interest which you would like to share with the readers of the Champion, why not drop us a line?

Letters to the editor should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and should include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

Letters can be posted or emailed to the respective addresses listed at the top of this page.

■ PLEASE note: All views and opinions expressed in letters to the editor are solely those of the authors.

Council decision to allow pets crematorium in Aughton is unbelievable

I CANNOT believe that West Lancs Borough Council could impose a pets crematorium on the highest ratepayers in the county at Winifred Lane, Aughton.

This will be built on Green Belt land and in a conservation area.

It's a complete change of use from stables to an industrial complex. The fuel tank is a 1,500 litres of diesel for burning dead animals and in use from 8am until 5.30pm Monday to Friday and Saturday from 8am to 1pm.

Can you imagine the toxins in the air? Also there are two primary schools within close proximity.

Only three residents have agreed to this and half the population of Aughton are in opposition. Is this what is now called democracy?

We need to put a lid on this by calling in DEFRA (the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs) and the government inspectors.

There are two pet crematoriums within half-an-hour of Aughton, why do we need another one?

Jim Burgess, by email.

Head shave for cancer charity

ON Saturday, September 8 we are having a 'Brave the Shave' charity fundraising night in the Tawd Vale Inn, Berry Street, Skelmersdale with all money raised going to the Macmillan Nurses charity.

There will be a raffle on the night to help boost funds and we would like as much support as possible. Public response to date has been overwhelming.

There will be three head shaves on the night and any help will be much appreciated.

John Medlicott,
by email.

Country owes our Merchant Navy seafarers much better treatment

RE: 'Council to fly Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day (Champion, August 29) the people of the UK, in Cllr. Delaney's words, do owe a debt of gratitude to seafarers and the work that they do.

Yet Britain has fought hard in Europe against reforming their pay and conditions. Of the EU nations, Britain protects its own sailors least from unfair, undercutting competition, and is issuing the most 'certificates of equivalent competency' to foreign mariners so they can work on its ships.

If the council did fly the Merchant Navy flag on September 3 then half-mast would seem appropriate.

David Pryer, Parbold.

Oddfellows' invitation to join in Great Big Friendship Month

ORMSKIRK & Southport Oddfellows are looking to make some new friends as they invite people to join them for a carvery lunch during Great Big Friendship Month.

The local friendship society is holding their usual Coffee Club at the at The Bay Horse in Church Road, Formby from 10.30am to midday on Tuesday, September 11 with lunch to follow.

The event is one of hundreds running up and down the country during September as part of the Oddfellows' annual celebration of friendship.

Now in its ninth year, the national awareness month aims to provide easy ways for people of all ages to come together, have fun as a community, and to form lasting friendships.

Judith Catton, events organiser and welfare co-ordinator for the Ormskirk & Southport group, said: "Having a strong circle of friends around you is really important - not only for your mental health but it's been proven to boost physical health, too.

Opportunity

"Making and maintaining new friends in later life doesn't come as easy as it did in the school yard, so as a group we meet regularly so we can stay in touch with others and share some laughs, as well as look out for each other.

"We'd love to welcome some new faces to our group. If you'd like to come along and give us a try, then this is a perfect opportunity. Let us know you are coming and we will meet you at the door.

"Our Great Big Friendship Month gets bigger and better each year. It's always fantastic to see new people come along and enjoy our events and to leave having made friends."

According to research more than nine million people of all ages in the UK say they are lonely either often or always.

The Oddfellows, established in 1810, is one of the largest and oldest friendly societies in the UK, and they believes that friendship is the answer, helping people lead happier and healthier lives with the support of friends around them.

For more details of Ormskirk & Southport group's regular events and activities contact Judith Catton on 01704 545279 or email judith.catton@oddfellows.co.uk.

Members of Ormskirk & Southport Oddfellows who enjoyed a trip to Haydock Park races earlier this summer.

John McCormick proudly displays his medal after completing the West Lancashire Summer Triathlon in aid of Prostate Cancer UK.

Rotary club president, 67, tackles triathlon in aid of cancer charity

Report by **Kenny Parker**

ACCOUNTANT John McCormick was left counting his aches and pains - as well as a four-figure sponsorship total - after completing a gruelling triathlon at the grand age of 67 in aid of a charity that is close to his heart.

John, president of the Rotary Club of Ormskirk and a director of Myersons Chartered Accountants, was inspired to take part in the West Lancashire Summer Triathlon after chatting to a friend's son who competes in Iron Man events.

And the plucky pensioner overcame the pain barrier to complete the 400-metre swim, followed by an 18.5 km cycle and 5k run, raising more than £1,000 for Prostate Cancer UK - a disease he survived himself following surgery.

His only regret was not doing more training in preparation for the event. John, who is a member of Park Pool gym in Ormskirk, said: "It went really well and I enjoyed the sense of achievement but my 67-year-old knees are feeling their age!"

Meanwhile he is still collecting for the charity and says any donations would be welcome. Anyone wishing to donate can send a cheque, payable to The Rotary Club of Ormskirk Trust Fund, to Myersons (Chartered Accountants), 32 Derby Street, Ormskirk.

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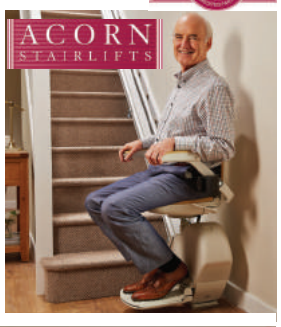

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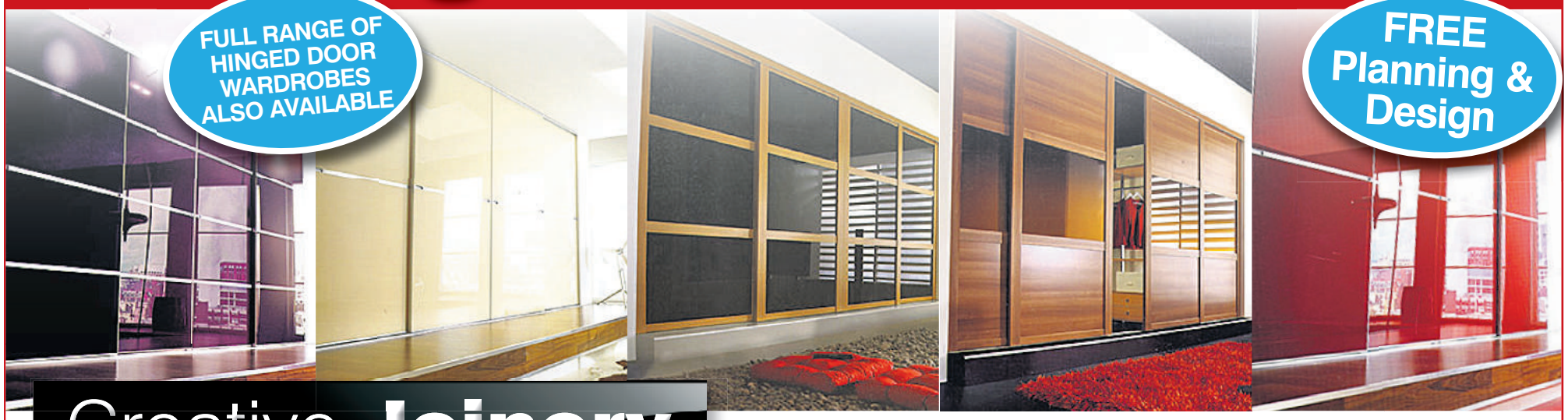

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Edge Hill will host careers 'boot camps' for recent graduates

Report by **Kenny Parker**

EDGE Hill University's careers team is aiming to help graduates on their career path with boot camp-style workshops.

Entitled 'Commandeer your career', the workshops on Thursday September 6 from 1.30 to 4.30pm and Tuesday, October 2 between 5.30 and 8.30pm, are available to all former students at the Ormskirk campus who have graduated from 2016 onwards.

New for 2018, the free half-day boot camps comprise interactive activities to help graduates progress through tough selection processes to kick-start their careers.

The sessions will include CV building, job application forms and interviews, as well as other useful hints and tips to help secure graduate roles and schemes.

Careers adviser, Debby Murray, said: "It's the time of year when graduate recruiters are on the hunt for their next intake of talent and the careers team at Edge Hill are here to help new graduates get snapped up.

"We support students from the moment they arrive at the university through to three years after graduation. Our support ranges from individual careers consultations to regular workshops helping students to secure that all important part time job or boosting employability skills through volunteering."

Edge Hill University is providing recent graduates with careers guidance.

Edge Hill's success in employability is demonstrated by 96.6 per cent of its full-time first degree graduates finding work or further study within six months of graduating and the university has a top 10 shortlisting in TARGET job's National Graduate Recruitment Awards.

Opportunities to put the skills learned at the boot camps into action will be available at the university's annual recruitment fair, organised by the employer liaison team, featuring approximately 50 organisations with careers available across a range of subject areas.

This year's event takes place on Tuesday, October 16 and is open to graduates as well as current students.

For further details or to book a place go to the events section of the website: https://careerhub.edgehill.ac.uk/students/events.

The boot camps are only available to Edge Hill University graduates.

Author and Tudor expert to give Lathom Park lecture

AUTHOR Nathen Amin will be guest lecturer at Lathom Park Chapel on Friday, September 7.

Born in Wales, Nathen has long had an interest in Welsh history and the Welsh origins of the Tudors. He has also appeared on several TV history programmes as an authority on both the Wars of The Roses and the Tudors.

Tickets for the lecture, starting at 7.30pm, are still available priced £10 including refreshments and entry into a free draw for a signed copy of his book. Proceeds from the event will be shared between the Lathom Park Trust charity and Lathom Park Chapel.

For tickets call 07399061408 or email info@lathomparktrust.org.uk.

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Care trust's award for employment support to former armed forces staff

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Foundation Trust has been recognised for its commitment to supporting former armed forces personnel into employment.

The trust's recruitment team have been selected for the Ministry of Defence's Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award 2018 for their pledge to supporting the defence and armed forces community.

The team have been recognised as an armed forces employer.

Having already received bronze recognition for their commitment almost two years ago they have now signed the armed forces covenant demonstrating that service personnel are given equal opportunities during the recruitment and selection process.

A spokesman for the trust said: "We are so pleased to have received the Ministry of Defence's Armed Forces Covenant Employer Recognition Scheme Silver Award. As a trust we are committed to supporting people who have served in the armed forces by providing fair opportunities in to recruitment.

"The NHS has a wide variety of employment opportunities and we offer our full support to service leavers, veterans, reservist and cadets who are looking for employment in healthcare.

"We absolutely recognise and value the transferable skills, experiences and commitment of the people that have served in the armed forces and believe that these attributes support our own values within our own organisation."

The team will receive the award at the North West Reserve Forces and Cadet Association awards evening in November.

Bookings being taken for festive fundraiser in aid of borough mayor's charities

BOOKINGS are now being taken for a three-course traditional Christmas dinner and entertainment in aid of the Mayor of West Lancashire's chosen charities.

The festive fundraiser, to be held at Ormksirk Civic Hall on Thursday, December 13, will be compered by comedian Pete Emmett and feature singer Steve Charles and singer/songwriter/actor Holly Ellison. Tickets, priced £35, are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/date/528901 and all proceeds will go to Skelmersdale-based Blossom's Legacy and the 37th Ormskirk (St. Anne's) Scout Group.

Blossom's Legacy, set up by the parents of four-year-old Blossom Iris Kelly who tragically died in a hotel swimming pool accident during a family holiday in Spain, raises funds to educate and encourage children to learn to swim from an early age.

The 37th Ormskirk (St. Anne's) Scout Group provides activities including camping, archery, canoeing, abseiling, craft, games and badges, for about 100 boys and girls aged from six to 14.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Sue's a Successful Slimmer Second Time Around

Sue Newsome from Ormskirk, who has shed 3st 9lb in 11 months, says: "When I started out I never dreamt I'd be able to achieve all that I have. Losing the weight has made such a big difference – it's changed my life. My health is better, I have more energy and I'm even now able to run and enjoy doing things always wanted to do. I'm much happier now – I definitely feel more comfortable in my own skin"

She joined Slimming World after becoming increasingly unhappy with her size. " I had lost over 3st with Slimming World over 20 years ago and convinced myself I could do it on my own - how wrong could I be? I gained back the 3st plus much more.

It was after my holiday last summer and seeing the photographs, which I hated, that I decided to go back. I know a lot of people worry about joining a slimming club because they don't know what to expect but right from the first moment I walked backed into my Slimming World group I felt comfortable, and the support I've received has been amazing. I look forward to going to Slimming World each week."

I love that never have to miss out and I don't have to get hung up on weighing and measuring everything I eat. My family and friends are all amazed by how much I can eat and still lose weight. I still eat many of the same meals that I did before I started losing weight, like curries and roast dinners. Now I just prepare and cook them differently – and they taste so much better. I've picked up lots of new healthy recipes from the other members at my Slimming World group, too".

Sue adds: "I feel like a different woman to the person who walked back into Slimming World I remember feeling like there was no hope when it came to my weight but I've realised that when people believe in you – and you believe in yourself – you can do anything you set your mind to I have shrunk 3 dress sizes and this year on holiday I felt fantastic!. I really hope my weight loss can inspire other people to get started on their own journey. My Consultant Tina Whewell and my fellow members at Ormskirk Rugby club have been so supportive and with me every step of the way."

Slimming World groups are held most day and evenings across West Lancashire. To find your nearest group see attached advertisiement or visit the website- www.slimmingworld.co.uk/joining-a-group

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11am & 1pm
Sue: 07817 444580

ASHURST, SKELMERSDALE
The Ashurst Centre, Lyndhurst
3.30pm, 5.30pm & 7.30pm
Sue: 01695 420 305

MAGHULL
Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
6.30pm
Michelle: 07931 125172

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
9.30am & 11.30am
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD ROAN
The Hope Centre (behind Tesco), Aintree Lane
5pm & 7pm
Victoria: 07766 136641

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
5pm & 7pm
Paula: 07484 263698

TUESDAY

CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
5pm & 7pm
Sheila: 07827 335824

OLD SKELMERSDALE
The Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane
9am & 11am
Paula: 07484 263698

WEDNESDAY

MELLING
Melling Residents Community Association
(Ratepayers Club)
Melling
7.30pm
Katie: 07469 193445
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CHESHIRE LINES
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9.30am
Sheila: 07827 335824

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
9.30 & 11.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club, Green Lane
5.30 & 7.30pm
Tina: 0151 548 4266

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
4.30 & 6.30pm
Emma: 07414 223 617

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
9.30am
Sarah: 07969 395302

UP HOLLAND
UpHolland Methodist Church, Alma Hill
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Sarah: 07969 395302

BURSCOUGH
Burscough Cricket Club
School Lane
3.30pm, 5.30 & 7.30pm
Kathy: 07815 199346

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Emmanual Church, Longmoor Lane
7.30pm
Michelle: 07883 159082
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Aughton Village Hall, Winifred Lane
8.00am & 10.00am
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AUGHTON
Scout and Guide Hut (behind Christ Church), Long Ln
5.30 & 7.30pm
Zoe: 01695 580 966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
3.00pm 5:00pm & 7.00pm
Sue: 07957 531346

DIGMOOR, SKELMERSDALE
Digmoor Community Centre, Birleywood
4.30pm & 6.30pm
Sarah: 07792 146342

FRIDAY

ORMSKIRK
New Pavilion
Ormskirk Cricket Club
Altys Lane
9am
Zoe: 01695 580966

MAGHULL
The Cheshire Lines
Sefton Lane
(behind Fun Factor)
9:30am & 11:30am
Sue: 07957 531346

SATURDAY

KIRKBY
St. Martins Church
Peatwood Avenue
7.30, 9.30 & 11.30am
Emma: 07414 223617

OLD SKELMERSDALE
Greenhill Community Room
Beech Close
(Off Lancaster Cres)
8am & 10am
Sarah: 07969 395302

ORMSKIRK
Ormskirk Rugby Club
Green Lane
7.30am & 9.30am
Tina: 0151 548 4266

ORMSKIRK
St Anne's School, Aughton Street, Ormskirk
10.30am & 12.30pm
Sue: 07817 444580

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Glitter Boys aim to sparkle in charity dance challenge

Report by **Kenny Parker**

The Glitter Boys learning their routines ready for their dance challenge.

THIRTEEN 'brave' men will put their reputations on the line when they step out to perform a glittering dance routine for charity.

And the plucky pals are hoping to make it a sparkling occasion when they take to the stage in aid of Rainbow House in Mawdesley which supports children and young people with physical and neurological disabilities.

Lisa and Paul Maddison, whose daughter Katie attends Rainbow House, have organised a fundraising Glitter Ball for the charity at the Formby Hall Golf Resort and Spa on Saturday, September 15.

And strutting their stuff on the big night will be the Glitter Boys, made up of 12 friends ready to release their inner funkiness!

Lisa says all the men readily accepted the challenge and are aiming for a 'spectacular, once-in-a-lifetime performance.'

She said: "The boys have been rehearsing every week and have just completed their first full run-through.

"They are doing incredibly well as none of them are experienced dancers but they're really nailing their routines and looking hot!

"They are being put through their paces by my niece, Emma Lippitt, a talented and fabulous dance teacher. And I'd like to thank them for their commitment to this crazy challenge."

She continued: "All of the guys know Katie, have followed her progress over the years and know about the life-changing work the charity carries out.

"The dance will be on social media after the event so anyone who donates will get to see the Glitter Boys strut their funky stuff even if they are not at the ball."

Ben Blackman, chief executive at Rainbow House, said: "This is an amazing challenge and commitment and we can't wait to see the Glitter Boys in action. Our thanks go to Lisa and Paul Maddison for organising the event and for all their continued support for Rainbow House.

To support the Glitter Boys with a donation go to website www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theglitterboys.

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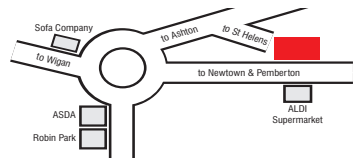

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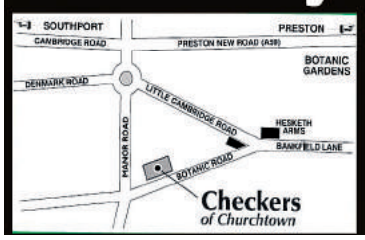

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Learn Fest at local libraries

ORMSKIRK and Tarleton libraries will take part in the first regional Libraries Connected NW Learn Fest this month.

The family-focused festival, from Monday, September 10 to Monday, September 24, will feature a programme of events, workshops and activities. It aims to bring learning to life and will offer opportunities to try something new, develop skills and to learn new things.

There's no need to book places and all the events, activities and workshops are free.

For details of what is happening at different libraries visit http://bit.ly/LearnFest2018 or call 0300 123 6703.

County council to revisit tendering process for children's health services

Authority faces £200k legal bill after High Court judge overturns decision to award contract to Virgin Care

Report by **Kenny Parker**

LANCASHIRE County Council will revisit the tendering process for public health services for 0 to 19-year-olds after its previous decision to award the services to Virgin Care was overturned by the High Court, costing the authority £200,000 in legal fees.

The council ran a procurement process between September and November of last year with Virgin Care coming out as the winning bidder chosen to deliver county-wide public health nursing services, including health visitors and school nurses, for the age group.

However, the decision was subject to a legal challenge by Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust and following a High Court hearing, it was set aside by Mr Justice Stuart-Smith.

County Councillor Shaun Turner, Lancashire's cabinet member for health and wellbeing.

In his findings, the judge said he did not find any fault with the tendering or scoring elements of the procurement process for the services, but did raise issues with record keeping in the final stage moderation element.

The scoring and moderation stages will now be re-run with a new independent panel, which will make the decision over who will be awarded the contract.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper welcomed the judge's decision to set aside the contract to Virgin Care and accused the county council of using "dubious" processes to award contracts and being determined to privatise county council services.

And Skelmersdale East County Councillor John Fillis, deputy leader of the Labour group, said it was the third time the Conservatives in Lancashire had been stopped from privatising public services.

Legal duty

However, the county council chiefs maintain that the authority is legally bound to offer the services to tender and that the decision was not political.

They admit though that the ruling has cost them money, after agreeing to make a payment towards the health trusts' costs for the legal challenge.

Although the total costs for the case are still being finalised, it is anticipated that the amount the county council will be required to pay will be in the region of £200k, which would be around 75% of the total costs.

County Councillor Shaun Turner, Lancashire's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "We will now be able to move forward to finalise this procurement process and we have also agreed to pay 75% of the trusts' legal costs for this case, which will mean we do not have to go back to court.

"Where services such as the 0-19 public health services are not being delivered in house, we are under a legal duty to open them up to competition; and the decision to do so in this case was in no way political.

"The existing contract with Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust and Blackpool Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust does not expire until March 2019 so the public can be reassured that there will be no disruption to these important services.

"Health visitors and school nurses all do a fantastic job and we will continue to support them in any way we can to ensure children and families continue to receive a good service."

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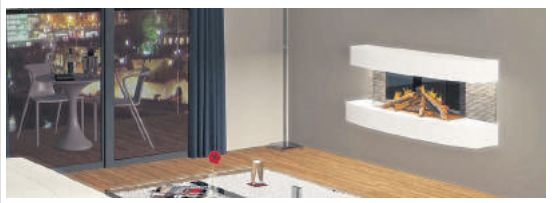

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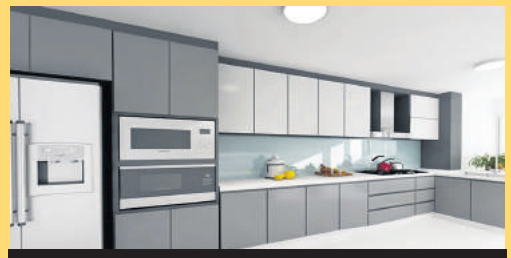

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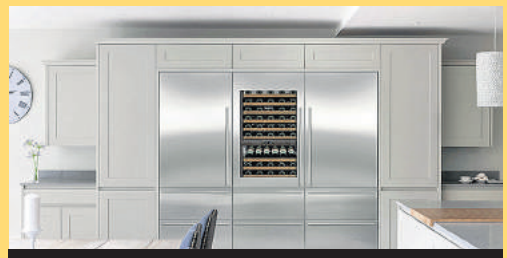

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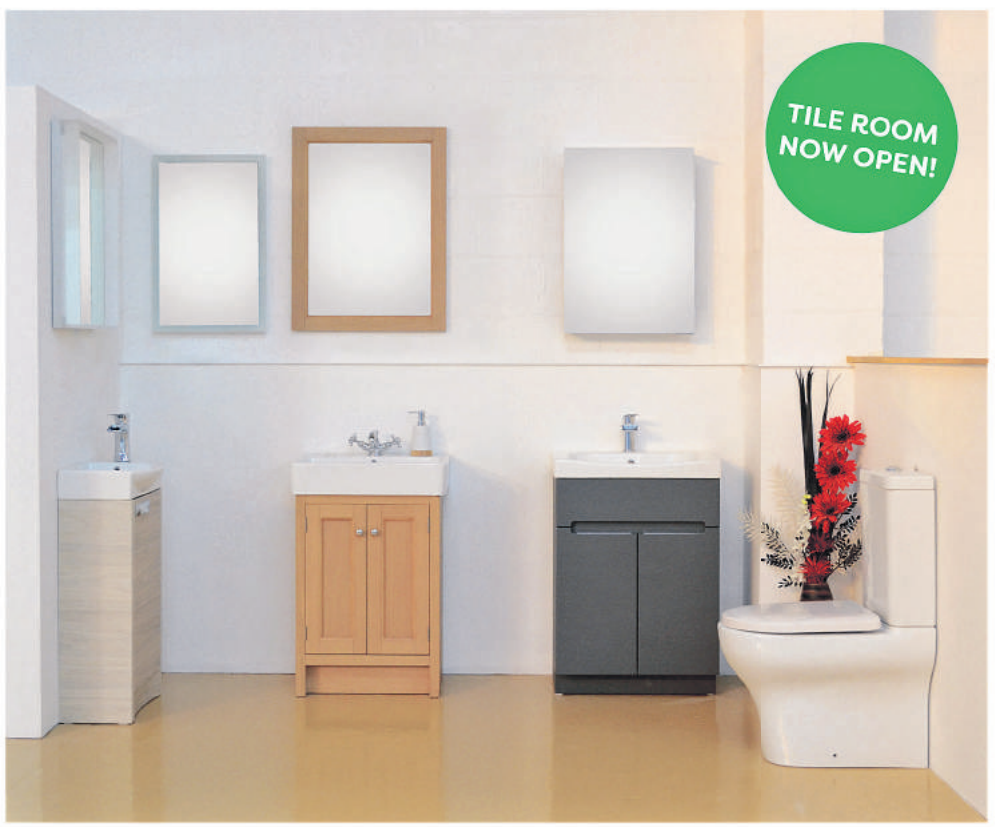

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Village celebrates fourth arts and music festival

CROWDS flocked to the fourth annual Parbold Street Festival of Arts and Music last Saturday and Sunday, September 1 and 2.

Over the two days residents and visitors were able to enjoy theatre, arts, street entertainers, a beer and gin festival, exhibitions, several market places and live music performances.

Taking centre stage though were the parades of dragons, celebrating the Legend of Parbold Hill, the story of the dragon dwelling under the hill!

Enter the dragon . . . villagers parade through Parbold as part of the arts and music festival.

The sounds of samba come to Parbold as this band of samba drummers help to get the festival party stated en route through the village last weekend.

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It's never too soon to join library says county council

PARENTS are being reminded that children up to the age of five can join a library, and benefit from many free services available.

Lancashire County Council says that as well as introducing children to books and a love of reading at an early age, libraries can offer lots of other activities for young children.

With free Wi-Fi available giving access to a wealth of information and the chance to play online games and stream music, there are also hundreds of children's e-books and audio books available to download for free.

County Councillor Peter Buckley, Lancashire's cabinet member for community and cultural services, said: "It's important to give children the chance to experience the joy of reading from an early age.

"And as well as books, most libraries now offer free storytelling or music sessions, where parents and carers can bring their pre-school children and meet with friends, and even Lego sessions for older children to get involved."

For more information, go to www.lancashire.gov.uk/libraries.

Representatives from the Blood Bikes and Queenscourt Hospice charities receive their cheques from members of Ormskirk Park Senior Citizens Bowling Club.

Bowlers' helping hand for charities

MEMBERS of a West Lancs bowling club have donated surplus funds generated from weekly subscriptions to three charities.

Ormskirk Park Senior Citizens Bowling Club has presented £50 cheques to North West Blood Bikes, Queenscourt Hospice and Maghull-based Walking With Giants Foundation which supports people affected by dwarfism.

Club chairman, Mike Brown, said: "The charities were proposed by members and once we had nominations it was agreed that rather than choose just one we would treat all three."

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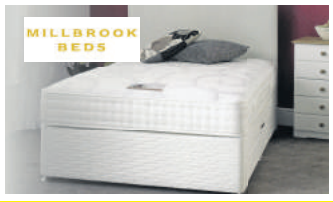

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Pub diners enjoy share of giant fishy treat

DINERS at a local pub have been tucking into a giant fishy treat by sharing in a huge halibut caught off the coast of the Shetland islands.

The fish, weighing a hefty 72kg (about 11st tone 5lbs) was delivered to seafood specialist Chris Neve, whose daughter Jocelyn Neve is founder and managing director of the Seafood Pub Company which has branches across Lancashire and Yorkshire, including the Town Green Brasserie in Aughton.

Chris filleted the halibut into 200 portions to be dispatched to the various venues of the pub chain and also held a 'Ready, Steady, Cook' contest with the fish to encourage creativity amongst the company's chefs, with the most innovative winning a selection of knives for their kitchen.

Chefs in the group, accompanied by executive chef, Mark Taft and Chris Neve, also visited Fleetwood docks, where they were shown the day's catch and attended a fish auction.

Right: Joycelyn Neve, Mark Taft and Chris Neve with the giant halibut.

New hospitality industry awards scheme launched

A NEW awards programme has been launched to recognise the 'stars' of Lancashire's hotel and hospitality industry.

The inaugural Lancashire Hospitality Awards aims to champion and reward the top performers in the county in 12 categories.

Ten finalists in each category will be interviewed by a panel of judges made up of businessmen and women from throughout the hospitality and associated industries, following which the list will be whittled down to a final five before a winner is chosen.

The awards, founded by the KC Awards Group Limited, are free to enter and the deadline for entries is Friday, October 5.

Director, Carl Darcy, said: "Lancashire has hundreds of tremendous businesses throughout the hospitality industry and the aim of the awards is to recognise all the good work they are doing.

"I'd encourage everybody to look at entering, the wide range of categories means there is something for everyone and we look forward to receiving the entries."

Fellow co-founder, Kara Rose added: "Lancashire is leading the way in its hospitality offer but there have never been any awards to recognise this effort. The new awards, judged by key leaders in the industry, will look at businesses and individuals in the hospitality sector who go above and beyond to create a first-class service for their customers, really raising awareness of this work both on a regional and national level."

Awards co-founder Carl Darcy.

Following the judging process, the awards night will take place on Friday, February 1 next year at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool.

Award categories are large hotel; small hotel; boutique hotel; spa hotel; golf resort; hotel restaurant/bar; sustainable venue; hotel conference/event; non-residential venue; wedding venue; marketing/PR campaign; and lifetime achievement.

The 10 finalists in each category will be announced on Friday, October 12.

For more information visit www.lancashirehospitalityawards.co.uk.

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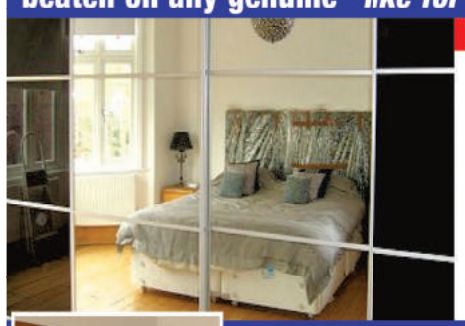

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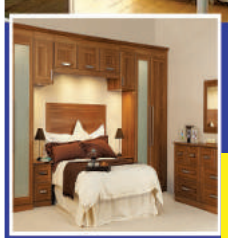

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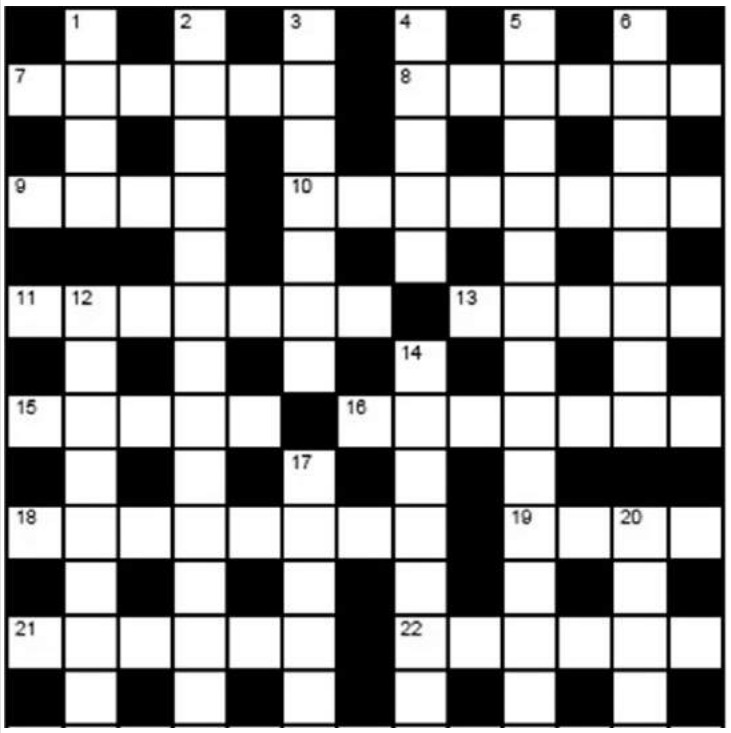

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Unmentionable. 8. Resolute. 9. Puma. 10. Prefect. 12. Prune. 14. Stale. 16. Cat's eye. 19. Biro. 20. Harmless. 22. Reception room.

Down: 1. Knee. 2. Set off. 3. Staunch. 4. Ropey. 5. Pamper. 6. Clemency. 11. Retainer. 13. Patriot. 15. Looter. 17. Salary. 18. Theta. 21. Smog.

ACROSS

7. Not very often, seldom (6)
8. Great enthusiasm or passion (6)
9. Boyfriend or male admirer (4)
10. To protect against infection or disease by inoculation (8)
11. Greenery, vegetation (7)
13. Pinkish-violet colour or shrub of the olive family (5)
15. Play a guitar by sweeping the thumb or a plectrum up or down across the strings (5)
16. Discovered the position of (7)
18. Emitting more light or having more intelligence (8)
19. Domesticated, not wild (4)
21. Person who makes a living by working the land or rearing livestock (6)
22. Place where bees are kept (6)

DOWN

1. Not genuine, counterfeit (4)
2. Football is sometimes described as this The - - (9, 4)
3. Device for injecting or withdrawing fluids (7)
4. Characterized by pleasantly warm weather (5)
5. Either of two siblings developed from a single fertilized egg and alike in all genetic characteristics and very similar in appearance (9, 4)
6. Parasol (8)
12. Sudden occurrence of something unwelcome, e.g. war or disease (8)
14. Bouncer or commissionaire (7)
17. Rear part of a ship (5)
20. Fourth planet from the Sun (4)

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The Beacon Park Golf Club seniors section team.

Golf club veterans beat local rivals to clinch seniors title

VETERAN golfers at a West Lancashire club are celebrating after winning a prestigious regional competition.

Members of the Beacon Park seniors section fought off the challenges of more fashionable clubs with better facilities and more resources to win the South West Lancs Seniors League by six points.

While neighbouring clubs such as Hurlston Hall, Mossock Hall and Formby Hall fell by the wayside, the smaller but committed squad from the Up Holland club came up trumps to take the title.

New members Barry Baker and Ken Clarke played alongside regulars Tommy Jackson, Billy Fitzpatrick, Mike Stokes, John Stanley and Paul Bretherton to form the nucleus of the winning team although vital contributions came from 27 senior members in total.

Highlights of the season incuded an 11-3 away win at Mossock Hall and a 14-0 home win against Sutton Hall.

A spokesperson for the team said: "Special mention must also go to Bob Ratcliffe, Jack Sockett, Pat Higgins and Ceasar Marchesean, all of whom are close to 80 years of age but made valuable contributions. They keep themselves fit in body and mind by playing regularly at Beacon Park."

The senior section is open to players of all golfing ability, playing every Tuesday throughout the year in a variety of competitions which satisfy Council of National Golf Unions handicap regulations but maintain a fun and social element. As well as league matches the club features stroke play, stableford, Texas scramble and four clubs and a putter competitions.

Anyone interested in joining the senior section can ring Mike Collins on 07725 180 354.

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From 'hopeless' case to Woman of the Year...

Report by **Henry James**

WHEN Diane Seddon joined her local Slimming World group at Ormskirk Rugby Club she confesses she felt she was a hopeless case - but 20 months later she has been crowned its 'Woman of the Year' 2018 thanks to a "life-changing" five stone weight loss.

Diane, who has gone from a size 20 to a size 12 or 14, said: "When I started out I never dreamt I'd be able to achieve all that I have.

"Losing the weight has made such a big difference - it's changed my life. My health is better, I have more energy and I'm much happier now, I definitely feel more comfortable in my own skin."

Joining Slimming World in January 2017 after becoming increasingly unhappy with her size, Diane lost five pounds in her first week.

Then she went on to lose a stone in eight weeks and was blown away that the changes she'd made had such a big impact so quickly.

And as the weight started to come off, her fitness improved and she now loves running.

Amazing

She said: "I started with the app Couch to 5k and I am now running several times a week - before I joined I found it hard to even get off the couch!

"I feel like a different woman to the person who walked into Slimming World 20 months ago and winning Woman of the Year is a real honour because there are so many amazing members in our group.

"I remember feeling like there was no hope when it came to my weight but I've realised that when people believe in you - and you believe in yourself - you can do anything you set your mind to.

"I really hope my weight loss can inspire other people to get started on their own journey and know that there's a whole group of people waiting to support them every step of the way."

Diane's Slimming World consultant, Tina Whewell, said: "I'm so proud of Diane. She's a fantastic ambassador for Slimming World and what she's achieved is nothing short of incredible. She's a huge inspiration to everyone in our group and I hope she inspires other women - and men - in West Lancs to change their lives in the same way."

Diane Seddon pictured before and after joining Slimming World and shedding a life-changing five stones.

Northern Rail accused of 'disregard' for passengers

...but company says union strike action is 'frustrating'

A COUNTY councillor has accused Northern Rail of showing disregard for passengers by failing to "engage in meaningful talks with the RMT" in the long-running dispute over plans to introduce driver-only trains.

However, the company says it is "trying to fix" the dispute and described the union's decision to stage further one-day strikes on Saturdays throughout September as "frustrating and disappoiting."

County Councillor Erica Lewis.

County Councillor Erica Lewis, the Labour group spokesperson for highways and transport on Lancashire County Council, said: "Once again passengers on Northern Rail are facing cancellations on not just one, but six weekends in a row. Whether people are travelling for work or pleasure over the weekend the ongoing disruption highlights Northern's disregard for the chaos it continues to cause in people's lives.

"The failure of Northern Rail to engage in meaningful talks with the RMT seems fundamentally foolish. The travelling public right across Lancashire support guards on trains and staff at stations.

"Northern have built a model that relies on the goodwill of staff to keep the trains running but seem unable to see that their oppositional stance to their staff, union and public only erodes any goodwill that was left.

"Passengers in the north continue to be let down by Northern Rail, and yet despite a dreadful year for rail passengers, we'll see fares increase by 3.2% in January. They deserve better."

Richard Allan, deputy managing director for Northern, responded: "The RMT's announcement of three more strike days - less than a week since they agreed to ACAS talks - is incredibly frustrating and disappointing. This will be a further blow for our customers.

"We're trying to fix this dispute. Since the RMT agreed to reconvene the joint steering committee meetings and ACAS mediated talks, we are in the midst of arranging dates to meet. We have again urged the union to suspend any planned strikes. Instead, they have chosen to strike on every Saturday in September.

"We are delivering the biggest modernisation programme in a generation. The Pacer trains will be retired, all remaining trains will be refurbished to a high standard and we will provide an additional 2,000 services per week. We maintain that talking costs nothing, whilst strike action causes inconvenience to customers and damages the case for long-term investment in rail."

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Online applications for 2019 schools places go 'live'

PARENTS are being reminded that online applications for Lancashire school places went 'live' on Monday (September 3) for children either starting primary school, or moving to secondary school in September 2019.

Last year 95% of parents applied online for primary and secondary school places.

County Councillor Susie Charles, the county council's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "The number of people who chose to apply online last year was really high. Online is a quick, easy and secure way to apply for school places.

"I would encourage parents to go online as soon as possible. I'm sure they will find it useful to familiarise themselves with the process and take a look at the admissions criteria of the schools they're considering.

Prepared

"Unfortunately some applications come in late every year and these simply can't be considered at the same time as those we receive on time.

So it is much better to be prepared early, rather than rushing your application close to the deadline. This way there is time to spare to sort out any problems or get any advice.

"It is important to remember as well that having a child already at a school does not automatically mean that a brother or sister will be allocated a place - you must still apply."

Applications opened on Monday and the national closing dates are October 31 for secondary schools, and January 15 next year for primary schools.

Children start primary school in the September after their fourth birthday.

More information at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools or call 0300 123 6707.

County Councillor Susie Charles

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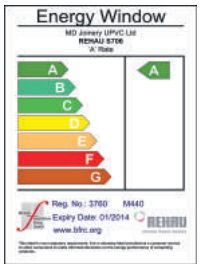

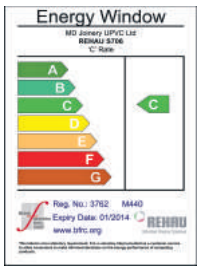

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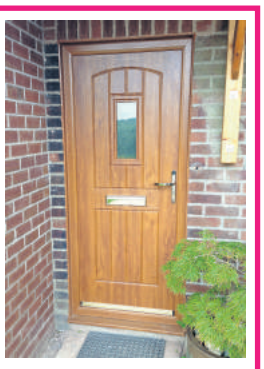

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National Dementia Carers' Day

Sunday 9 September 2018

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Many people living with dementia rely on the love, support and care of family members, friends and unpaid carers.

Now in its fourth year, the annual awareness day will this year take place on Sunday 9th September 2018, within Alzheimer's Awareness Month.
It aims to highlight the huge number of informal and family carers who provide innovative and compassionate support for relatives with dementia every day.

NDCD has been founded by a coalition of partners including Dementia UK, Alzheimer's Society and SweetTree Home Care Services. Each of the foundering organisations are dedicated to improving quality of life for people living with dementia and the quality of life of those caring for a loved one living with the condition.

The founders are aligned in the overall aim of raising awareness of and supporting the role of informal dementia carers.

Caring for a loved one with dementia poses many challenges for families and caregivers. Living with dementia requires having the right care, and it's time to recognise and share what it means to be a carer.

SweetTree Home Care Services

DementiaUK
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National Dementia Carers' Day

Sunday 9 September 2018

ADVERTISING FEATURE

The efforts of thousands of 'hidden' carers across the UK who are supporting someone close to them who has dementia, will again be highlighted as part of National Dementia Carers' Day (Sunday 9th September 2018).

Now in its fourth year and falling within Alzheimer's Awareness Month, the national day was introduced to recognise and celebrate informal dementia carers, while highlighting what it means to be a carer.

The focus of this year's campaign is 'Sharing'. Carers are invited to connect and share their experiences, tips and stories; while members of the public are encouraged to get involved by sharing their appreciation for a dementia carer they know.

Support organisations, charities and community groups are also being urged to get behind the campaign by spreading awareness and helping to signpost local sources of advice and support using **#NDCD18**.

According to Alzheimer's Research:

- There are currently around 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK, who are being cared for by 700,000 informal carers
- Over a third of the population (38%) know a family member or close friend living with dementia
- 39% of informal carers are estimated to spend more than 100 hours per week caring for the person with dementia
- 1% say they have had no or not enough support

"When you're caring for a loved one with dementia the world can be a very lonely place sometimes and as the disease progresses new challenges can often arise," commented Nicki Bones from SweetTree Home Care Services, one of the founders of the day.

"Raising awareness is vital if we are to build dementia-friendly communities. That's why we came together with Alzheimer's Society and Dementia UK to launch National Dementia Carers' Day and we're delighted that support continues to grow for the campaign year on year."

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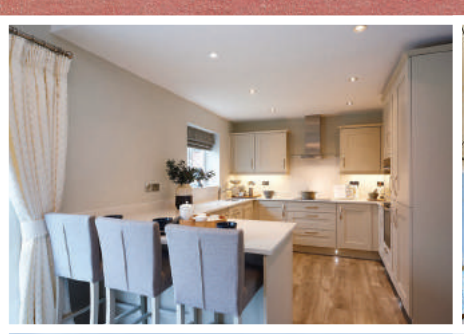

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Tribute band to thank Abba for their music

THEATRE audiences from across Great Britain and Sweden have long enjoyed ABBA – Forever, a recreation of possibly the world's greatest pop band.

The unique Abba sound is replicated with attention to detail, using a six-piece band featuring electric and acoustic guitars, keyboards and piano, drums and bass guitar.

Abba Forever will be at the Southport theatre on Thursday, September 13 at 7.30pm.

Two outstanding Abba girls complete the line-up, adding the essential glitz and glamour to a well-polished and gently humorous show. The superb lyrics penned by Benny and Bjorn are sung in harmony by all six performers on stage.

Non-stop choreography, visuals, musicianship and an all live performance ensures that the ABBA Forever show captivates audiences from the opening refrain to the final sing-along chorus of this two-hour spectacular.

Sweeney Entertainments, co-founded by Julie and Peter Sweeney, has been providing a wide repertoire of touring shows for theatre and corporate events for more than 15 years both in the UK and internationally.

Abba Forever

Julie said: "Abba Forever is a great concert experience for all ages, authentically reproducing some of the best pop hits of all time."

Jane Ellis, who performs as Agnetha in the show, said: "I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to perform some of the best songs of all time and tour some of the UK's most prestigious venues and beautiful theatres. We play all the big Abba hits and more, even putting some surprise album tracks in there for the most ardent Abba fan."

Youth production had many spellbinding performances

Review by **Ron Ellis**

Godspell (The 2012 Revival)
SDC Youth Theatre
Little Theatre, Southport

GODSPELL was first released in the Seventies in the age of rock operas like Hair and Jesus Christ Superstar and Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat. For some unfathomable reason, it was resurrected as an updated version in 2012 making it more like a garage rave than a folk/hippie convention.

An impressive set depicting an apocalyptic car scrapyard made an ideal playground for the cast to demonstrate their agility and youthful exuberance as they negotiated a series of acrobatic manoeuvres, carefully choreographed by Pippa Morris, some of which would not have been out of place in a circus ring. The timing of the dance moves was excellent.

To bring it further up to date, references were made in the script to 21st century people such as Westminster comedian Boris Johnson.

Eve McNamara and Lisa Carlin were in charge of the spectacularly colourful costumes which matched the frenetic tempo and slapstick nature of the show.

Charlie McMullan starred as Jesus Christ, retelling the parables based on the Book of St. Matthew, in a series of knockabout sketches, with Tom McMullan in a dual role as John the Baptist and traitor Judas Iscariot.

Martha Jenkinson, Ellie McKinnon, Charley Webster, Ben Ankers, Matty Higginson, Lucy Brindle, Eleanor Gillow and Harry Gascoine made up the rest of cast, backed up with 13 dancers.

M.D. Chris Rimmer provided the piano accompaniment, which was augmented by three guitars, keyboard and drums, creating a booming crescendo of sound to compete with the relentless shouting as the disciples argued and celebrated in turn like partygoers high on speed.

A scene from Godspell. Picture by Fletcher Hill photography

It must have been a nightmare to stage but, under the competent direction of John Delahunty, everything fell into place on the night.

Definitely a young people's version of the musical and as it ended, with Jesus on the cross, the disciples wandered off the stage one by one and the curtain came down. There was no resurrection and no curtain call.

Star Rating: 6 out of 10. Extremely well performed but a manic conception.

Singer's 70 year career to be marked at theatre

A NEW production celebrating the life and music of renowned singer-songwriter Paul Simon comes to the Liverpool stage later this year.

An extra performance has already been added due to popular demand, now becoming a two-night run.

Something About Simon, from producers Something About Productions and Bill Elms, will premiere at the Epstein Theatre on Tuesday, November 6 and Wednesday, November 7 with tickets on sale now.

With a phenomenal career that has spanned over seven decades, Paul Simon is a name that has cemented itself into the "hearts and bones" of audiences all over the world.

With his beginnings as one half of duo Simon and Garfunkel, he went on to forge a hugely successful solo career gaining recognition worldwide with 13 multi-million selling albums, a staggering 16 Grammy Awards and countless other awards and accolades.

Now, in this new show, Liverpool singer-songwriter Gary Edward Jones tells the unique story of one of his idols, combining visuals, stage design, storytelling and, of course… the music.

City event could be just the tonic for borough's gin lovers

GIN lovers are in for a real tonic when the largest gathering and celebration of gin brands Merseyside has ever seen heads to Liverpool Exhibition Centre.

'The Gin To My Tonic Show' takes place on September 7, 8 & 9 and will feature unlimited gin tastings, a sensory world tour – with over 60 drinks brands in attendance, including gins from France, Holland, UK, Germany, Sri-Lanka, Australia, New Zealand and USA.

You can get hands-on by making your own cocktail creations with leading mixologists, or you can simply relax and watch the action from the cocktail bar.

There will also be an opportunity to take part in 'Tonic Tutorials' where you can experiment with a wide range of tonic flavours, from the traditional to the more innovative including Pomegranate and Basil, Pink Pepper, Salty Lemon, and Blood Orange & Cinnamon!

Or, if fruit gins are your thing, try new flavours such as Rhubarb, Strawberry & Basil, Raspberry & Blackberry, Spit-roasted Pineapple… or even Black Tomato!

There's the chance to meet the Craft Gin Club who will be making their first live event appearance and there will be exclusive presentations on everything you need to know about the world of gin from some of the industry's leading distillers!

The event will showcase local producers including Turncoat, The Ginsmiths of Liverpool and Three Graces Rose Gin and there will be the opportunity to meet the teams behind the brands and discover what makes their creations unique.

For show times or to book tickets visit www.thegintomytonic.com or call the Exhibition Centre on 0844 809 4620.

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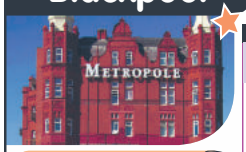

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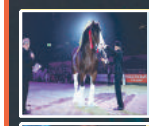

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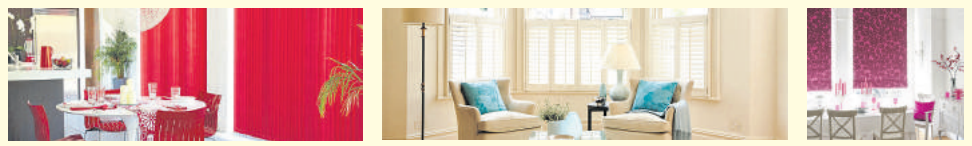

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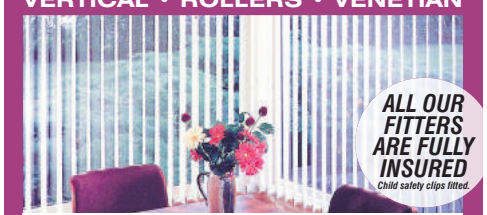

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MINI OVEN white eletric oven with 2 rings on top, 23 inch wide, 13 inch high, 14 inch deep good working order £30 07756229527

DINNING TABLE Small round , light solid wood table with 2 matching chairs 29 inch wide, good condition £60 07756229527

GARDEN CHAIRS 3 wicker chairs, two large, one small. All in good condition for £25. Email pictures available, buyer collects. 0151 2860268

COFFEE TABLE Oval mahogany pedestal table, 46"x30" & 20" high rope effect detail around the edge nice piece of furniture £40ono 07976735285

BUNK BEDS silver metal 2 mattresses 2 duvet 2 duvet covers 2 pillow cases all matching only used for grandchildren visits £125 01704380914

SANDERSON FABRIC 27yds x54inch wide curtain material,pink,grey+aqua watermark in wide stripe £45, ainsdale. 01704808691 Ainsdale

BED,HYPNOS Quality, Heritage Premiere king sized bed, with headboard:. in good condition. £55. Buyer collects. 01704 500410

CANVAS PRINT Mid blue & aqua green. Abstract water. H&W50cm. D3cm. Very good condition. 01704 808024/07763000776

STANDARD FLOOR lamp in mahogany wood stand and base with lined cream shade excellent condition from John Lewis may deliver £90 ono 01515263851

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CIRCULAR TABLE Small solid wood drop leaf table, 15" wide when open, 19" high. 4" wide when closed. Piano hinges. £10.00 07387439004

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PINE DRESSING TABLE 4 draw each side dressing table and pair of 3 draw bedside tables, £35 Burscough 07736642788

HOUSE AND HOME

CHAIRS PAIR Two black fabric square tub chairs with wooden arm rests, very solid and clean. £45 Burscough 07736642788

TABLE & CHAIRS Beech effect table & 6 faux leather chairs excellent condition £100 ONO 07835319027

CORNER UNIT Tall slim mahogany unit with top glass display and lower base cupboard excellent condition £75 07751924207

AIR CONDITIONING Unit, free standing, on wheels, with venting tube, good condition. £75. 01704 530137

ANTIQUE OAK Chest, 4ft wide, 21ins deep X 32ins high, lift up lid, paneled front, 2 drawers, nice condition, £150. 01704 530137

TV STAND Black glass with 2 lower shelves.28 by 18 inches. Good condition. Fits TV up to 49 inches £12 07845328005

AIR BED Blow up bed with stand and electric pump in carry bag. Used twice. Cost £60. Bargain £15 Ainsdale 07845188005

HOOVER BAGS Genuine Miele FJM red pack of 4. No filters. Ainsdale collection. Fits Compact and S series. £5 07845328005

DINING TABLE Taskers solid light Oak extending table and 4 chairs very good condition £100 buyer collects 07966245110

DC07 DYSON all floors, bagless upright with all tools, surplus to requirements, can deliver £45 01704214498

COT dropside, excellent condition. wood, Cosatto, with almost new mattress if required. £15. 07757432789

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DAVENPORT DESK Solid mahogany, carved legs, leather inlay, lovely piece of furniture, .reproduction. £75 0151 9281955

PINE BENCH Antique school or old hall pine bench 6ft long, legs fold flat when not in use. £70 0151 9281955

LEATHER SUITE Cream 2 seater sofa, 2 chairs (all recliners) and storage foot stool.
£300.00 ono 01704538825

NEST OFTABLES Mahogany style. Three tables. Very good condition. Buyer collects. £18 01704 576964

DINING CHAIRS 4 sets of dining chairs £1 each chair 01704578394

COFFEE TABLE solid ash coffee table good condition L 39 x w 13 x h 14 inches £30 01704578394

BREAD MAKER Cook works XBM11295 vgc £15 01515260731

DOLCE GUSTO Nescafé coffee maker used once £15 01515260731

MISC

RAF ANNIVERSARY SPITFIRE Wall Clock. With hanger, model Spitfire, aircraft sounds. 2 weights but electric. £45. 01704 548936

5 ANTIQUE GRECON DOLLS HOUSE DOLLS and Grecon Book, D Beaver Hall. £85 01704 548936

DESK TRAY 3 sided desk tray in teak with black stand in good condition £10. Email pictures available buyer collects. 0151 2860268

DESK TRAY 2 tray Mallod desk tray, teak with chrome stand, good condition £10. Email pictures available buyer collects. 0151 2860268

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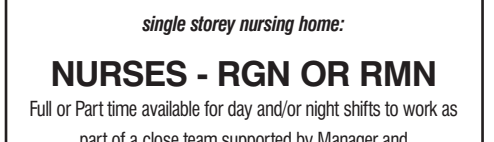

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We are currently seeking to fill an administration position in our Income Generation Team.

Administrative Assistant - Income Generation
£15,770 - £18,675 pro-rata, Dependant on experience
6 month fixed term contract initially; Full time (although job share considered)

The post holder will be responsible for supporting the delivery of an exciting range of Income Generation activities. With exceptional administration, organisational and communication skills, the post holder will aid the smooth running of the Team so we can deliver a variety of initiatives across Fundraising, Retail and Lottery.

The first point of contact for enquiries into the office, the post holder will be a confident communicator, as they will be liaising with staff and volunteers of Queenscourt; corporate bodies; members of the public; patients and families.

The successful candidate will have a successful track record of carrying out administration duties within a busy working environment, including excellent IT skills with experience of using a database. Occasional out of hours working is required. A full list of required skills and experience is available in the job description from our website.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: **Sunday, 16th September 2018**
INTERVIEWS TO BE HELD ON: **Friday, 28th September 2018**

For further information or to arrange an informal visit, please contact Kate Thomas, Head of Income Generation on 01704 517420. Application forms and job descriptions are available from www.queenscourt.org.uk/jobs

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Job details available on request from gwen.bleasdale@seftonbleasdale.co.uk

Interviews will be held on **18th September 2018**

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Phone **(01772) 333800** or email: **recruitment@integratepreston.org.uk** with your CV.

Closing Date: Monday 10th September 2018

(Please note interviews may be arranged prior to this date for early applications)

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The Ideal Candidate:

You will be Determined, Caring, Imaginative and Encouraging. You will need to be reliable, have a degree of flexibility and be able to work as part of a team. It is important that you understand what it means to work with people of all abilities as providing excellent service is paramount at Revitalise.

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Steph Sutherlandon 01704 538388 or email

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WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU SOON

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

BASS AMPLIFIERS Bass Player selling up - Trace Elliott 130 Model GP7SM £95. Also Laney Line-backer 30 Practice Amp £25 (Parbold) 07799 072071

YAMAHA ACOUSTIC GUITAR £30 07956 304163

SPORTS EQUIPMENT

AB CHAIR Black abdominal workout chair focusing workout on stomach muscles, supports head/neck and back, hardly used, good condition £15, buyer collects 0151 2860268

HOME GYMNASIUM PRO 3 home gym - excellent condition rarely used, need space in garage £150 07946 068664

TRAMPOLINE NET Safety net for 10 foot trampoline, 6 poles. Excellent condition, nearly new. £10 01704 833268Formby

GOLF CLUB Ben Hogan edge C.F.T hybrid rescue club 3h. Good condition £15.00 07912683245

GOLF CLUB Callaway FT9 driver 8.5 loft very good condition including head cover. £30.00 07912683245

ODYSSEY PUTTER White Hot XG 9 WITH LOVELY THICK WINN GRIP BARGAIN £25 07773242918

GOLF CLUBS Ladies, Wilson Patty Berg, 4, 8 ,9, SW and 3 wood with bag very good condition £25 ono 07731946207

PILATES MACHINE Ellen Croft's Supreme Pilates machine. VGC. £20 01704 577230

GOLF CLUB Galloway FT 4W 17 degree loft regular flex good condition £25 07912683245

100 X Golf Balls Good Quality all used but very good bargain the lot £15 07773242918

TOYS AND GAMES

QUAD SKATES SFR Storm II adjustable.Size UK3-6 Purple&white Skate carry bag & medium safety pads Used once immaculate condition £40 07811384302

JIGSAW LANCASHIRE 1000 piece Jigsaw of John Speed's 1610 colour map of Lancashire. 66x50 cm. Brand new in sealed box. £15 01695 572499

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOYS AND GAMES

DOLLS CRIB Elc, dolls crib and matching high chair, white with pink design on. Good Condition. £10.00 07553954226

BUILD ABEAR Build a Bear wardrobe, pink plastic, good condition. £10.00 07553954226

CHESS SET Wooden. £10.00 07756597703

SPIROGRAPH Hours of fun to be had! £5 07759812358

STICKLE BRICKS Jungle Adventure bucket with 128 pieces. Aged 2+ Excellent Condition £9 07709321569

DINKY CARS A Selection of Days Gone and Matchbox cars, still boxed in mint condition, 19 in all. Will consider offers. 07709321569

WANTED

WANTED Records
Rock & Roll, 60's Pop & Beat, Folk, Rock, Indie, Punk etc
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01704 566210
After 6pm

WANTED DOLLS HOUSE Any condition considered Tel 07773 777475

PUBLIC NOTICES

GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

Plasto-Sac UK trading as Plasto-Sac UK Ltd of 9 Pit Hey Place, West Pimbo Industrial Estate, Skelmersdale WN8 9PS is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To keep an extra 2 goods vehicles and 4 trailers at the operating centre at 9 Pit Hey Place, West Pimbo Industrial Estate, Skelmersdale WN8 9PS.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

West Lancashire Borough Council

Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2018/0813/FUL Proposed external landing, steps and handrails outside the bank entrance to allow inclusive access at Halifax, 1 Church Street, Ormskirk.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2018/0846/LBC Listed Building Consent - Proposed refurbishment of Gas Works Cottage to ancillary performing arts centre annex at Scarisbrick Hall School, Southport Road, Scarisbrick.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0881/FUL Replacement of all windows and doors at 4 Plox Brow, Tarleton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0885/FUL Garaging and storage ancillary to the main farmhouse at Stand Farm, Spa Lane, Lathom.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2018/0886/FUL Replacement of existing vehicular access with new access to Asmall House Farm at Asmall House Farm, Asmall Lane, Scarisbrick.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development

In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

How information about you will be used

The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Director of Development and Regeneration — Dated: 5th September 2018 PDNOT1009

Announcements

Call the Classified Sales Team on **01704 392392** or check-out our website **www.champnews.com**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GREAVES DORIS

John and Liz would like to thank all relatives and friends for their kind thoughts, prayers and messages of sympathy following the sad loss of their Mum. Thank you for the generous donations for The British Heart Foundation. Grateful thanks to Reverend David Somerville and all at Moor Lane Methodist Church. Sincere thanks to H. Leslie Humphreys Funeral Directors for their dignified funeral arrangements.

NEWTON IAN JAMES

Joan & family would like to say thank you to everyone for the love and support shown to Ian, and to us, over the past months. Special thank you to Ian's carers, Silver Birch Nursing Home for looking after Ian and looking after us. Sally Hunter from MLS Funeral Independent Funeral Directors thank you for your guidance, and Rev. Lin Camp - thanks Linda for the beautiful Service. Ian was loved in life and will be loved forever.

BIMPSON CAROL

The family would like to express their most sincere heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all the many relatives, friends and neighbours for all the heartfelt messages of condolence, sympathy cards, support and donations, for MIND and Ormskirk Parish Church, received during their recent sudden and very sad loss of Carol. Special thanks to Rev. Pauline Bicknell for the comforting Funeral Service, and to Sally Hunter and all the team at MLS Independent Funeral Directors for their kindness, compassion and support shown to us all throughout.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

WILSON MARIA

Richard would like to express his sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for all the many messages of condolence, sympathy cards and donations for St. Annes church received during his sad loss of his dear Wife Maria. Special thanks to Father Boniface for his kindness and prayers.

DEATHS

PORTER ALBERT

2nd September 2018
Passed away peacefully surrounded by his family aged 82 years

Beloved Father to Sue & Mark, Father in law to Ian, Grandfather to Chris, John & Stuart. Our hearts are broken, we've lost our Dad, Grandad, but most of all our best friend. Re-united with his Wife Joyce. Funeral service at St Helens Crematorium, Wednesday 12th September at 2pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Alzheimers Society. Enquiries to Devonports Funeral Services Tel:01695 731199

LARGE KATHLEEN

(nee Gardner)

2nd September 2018
Peacefully at her home in Skelmersdale aged 69 years

The dearly loved Wife of Trevor, loving Mum of Deborah and Janet, dear Mother in law of Kevin and devoted Grandma of Jack, Adam and Ben. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

DYKES DUDLEY

24th August 2018
Peacefully at his home in Aughton aged 87 years

The dearly loved Husband of the late Joy, loving Dad of Ashley and Christopher and devoted Grandad to all his grand and great grandchildren. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Monday 17th September 2018 at 1:45pm. Floral tributes welcome or donations if desired for North West Cancer Research. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Ormskirk, Skelmersdale & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 581769/720012

RIMMER JANET

28th August 2018
Suddenly at home after a long illness bravely borne aged 73 years of Skelmersdale

Dearly loved wife of Lin, much loved Mum of Michelle and Mike, and proud Grandma to Nancy, Jasmine and Fraser. Funeral Service at St. James' Church Westhead on Wednesday 12th September at 11.15am, followed by committal at West Lancs Crematorium, Burscough. (Preferably no black to be worn). Family flowers only by request but donations if so desired are being gratefully received for The Brain Tumor charity. Donations and further enquiries please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 424888

DEATHS

HALL DONALD COPE (DON)

23rd August 2018
passed away peacefully after a short illness aged 92 years of Maghull

Will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough on Friday 7th September at 10.45am, followed by a Thanksgiving Service at Burscough Methodist Church at 11.30am. Family flowers only please but donations if so desired for the Alzheimer's Society. Donations and further enquires please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, Tel: 01695 424888.

IN MEMORIAM

WILKINSON KENNETH

6th September 2014

4 years on and you are still dearly missed.

Forever in our thoughts.

Val, Angie, Andy, Ken, Alan, Rob, Kathy, Janet, Karen and Scott
xxxxxxxxx

ASHTON JEAN

7th September 2017

On this day we remember with great loving fondness and huge sadness. Quietly remembered every day, no longer in our life to share, but in our hearts you're always there.

"Loved always"

Loving Husband Les, much loved children Kari, Sally and Leslie and grandaughters Natasha, Isabel, Lucy and Rachael.

xxx

Announcements

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BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

MCLEAN JOAN

8th September Would have been your 82nd Birthday Mum

Today is full of memories,
Happiness and tears
Of Birthday celebrations
Shared through the years

I feel that you are with me
In everything I do,
So I'll celebrate your Birthday
But I'll spend it missing you

Love from
Gavin, Lilian, Patrick & Caitlin

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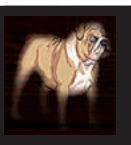

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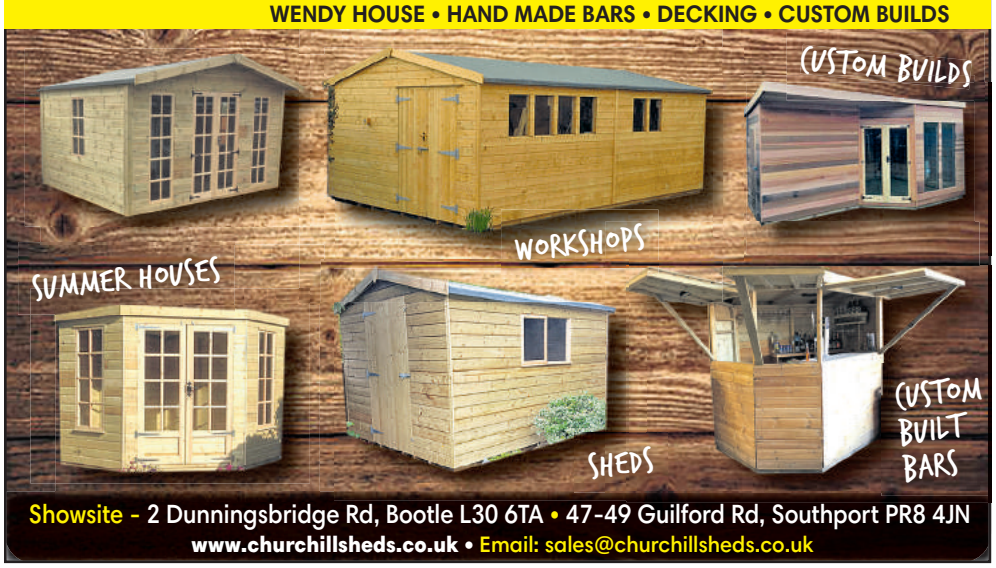

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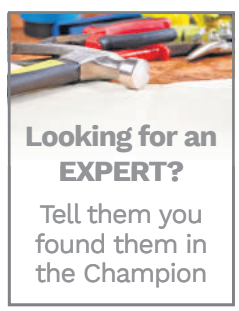

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2016 (65) **AUDI A5 2.0 TDi S LINE BLACK ED.+, AUTO,** sepang blue, black leather, 30,000 miles £21,750
2015 (15) **FORD FOCUS 1.0 TITANIUM ECOBOOST 125,** sat nav, metallic blue, 17,000 miles £10,895
2015 (15) **FORD C-MAX (NEW MODEL) 1.6 ZETEC,** silver, air con, heated screen, 13,000 miles £10,195
2014 (64) **MITSUBISHI ASX 3 1.6,** silver, alloys, air con, 21,000 miles only £9,895
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2015 (15) **TOYOTA AYGO 1.0 AUTO EXPRESSION 5 DR,** reversing camera, red, 8,000 miles only £7,995
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2015 (15) **VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 SE,** white, 9,000 miles, leather interior, heated seats ..... SOLD
2015 (15) **TOYOTA AURIS ICON 1.3,** metallic grey, 23,000 miles, air con. parking camera ..... SOLD
2015 (15) **FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCi ZETEC 5DR,** metallic grey, alloys, air con, sat nav ..... SOLD
2011 (61) **VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIVE, 7 SEATER,** 40,000 miles, silver ..... SOLD
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2015 (15) **VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 SE,** sovereign silver, heated leather seats, 17,000 miles ..... DUE

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The Mondeo might not be a bestseller any more, but it still has plenty of fans

The Grim Reaper will have to come back - the Ford Mondeo is alive!

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
www.lifeoncars.co.uk

THE Grim Reaper will have to pop round another time. Contrary to what you might have read elsewhere the Ford Mondeo is alive and well, and I reckon it will be for a while yet.

The car's makers have been forced to defend its family favourite this week, after a financial analysis suggested that it – and the Galaxy and S-Max people carriers too, for that matter – be quietly pensioned off (with a few thousand job cuts too, unfortunately). The Mondeo, it says, is a core part of its British range, even if when you look at the sales stats its spot in the bestsellers list has clearly been snatched by the trendier Kuga.

It's also abundantly clear that the family saloons the Mondeo traditionally squares up to are a bit of a dying breed. Brits can no longer buy a brand-new Nissan Primera, Citroen C5, Renault Laguna, Honda Accord or Toyota Avensis. Rover and Saab are long gone.

Vauxhall is still doing admirably well with its Insignia, VW offers a triple whammy with the Passat and its Octavia and Toledo cousins, there's the Peugeot 508 and Mazda 6 – and that's about it. Mondeo Man has either moved up to an A4 or 3-Series, or ditched saloons altogether for SUVs. Both, whichever way you cut it, have rather more panache than living in the past with the poor old Mondeo.

All of which makes me a bit sad because it reminds me of a bit of a recurring car nut truism; everyone I know who really, *really* likes cars rates the Mondeo.

I have many fond memories of stuffing unreasonably large amounts of IKEA clobber into the back of an ST TDCi Estate and then blasting up the M57 on its seemingly endless reserves of mid-range torque.

Or that time I drove 2.5-litre V6 Cougar – the Mondeo's short-lived coupe cousin – and being so impressed that I nearly bought it. Or the time I tried a 2001 Ghia X and was so won over that I actually *did* buy it. It's the same with all my petrolhead pals – almost all of them have owned a Mondeo at some point, because they do everything you could ever ask a family car to while still being a joy through the bends.

The Mondeo's a bit like Three Lions – inescapably associated with the Nineties, but on the right day and with a suitably optimistic bunch of England fans it can still top the pop charts in 2018. There's nothing wrong with Calvin Harris and Ariana Grande, of course, but I think I'll stick with the Lightning Seeds…

David Simister is the editor of Classic Car Weekly

The Car Finance Companies

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Optional Final Payment	£4,553.00
Interest Charges	£1,328.03
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Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£14,261.39
47 Monthly Payments	£209.98
Optional Final Payment	£5,955.00
Interest Charges	£1,562.67
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£17,133.06
APR Representative	3.9%

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Cash Price	£19,286.08
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Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£15,157.08
47 Monthly Payments	£229.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,033.00
Interest Charges	£1,638.92
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£20,925.00
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£239 per month | **£239 deposit** | **£500 minimum part ex**

Cash Price	£19,989.17
Customer Deposit	£239.00
Deposit Allowance	£3,000.00
Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£16,250.17
47 Monthly Payments	£239.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,749.00
Interest Charges	£1,777.89
Annual Mileage	5,000
Total Amount Payable	£21,767.06
APR Representative	3.9%

Brand New Vauxhall Grandland X 1.2T SE

£249 per month | **£249 deposit** | **£500 minimum part ex**

Cash Price	£21,336.43
Customer Deposit	£249.00
Deposit Allowance	£1,700.00
Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£18,887.43
47 Monthly Payments	£249.00
Optional Final Payment	£9,364.00
Interest Charges	£2,179.57
Annual Mileage	5,000
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£259 per month | **£259 deposit** | **£500 minimum part ex**

Cash Price	£18,707.38
Customer Deposit	£259.00
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Minimum Part Ex	£500.00
Amount of Credit	£17,198.38
47 Monthly Payments	£259.00
Optional Final Payment	£6,888.00
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67 FORD B-MAX 1.6 ZETEC NAVIGATOR AUTOMATIC, Magnetic Grey metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, alloys, A/C, massive saving and Ford warranty.....**£11,999**

17 FORD GALAXY TITANIUM X 2.0 TDCI AUTOMATIC, moondust silver, full leather trim, heated seats, panoramic roof, massive spec, save £10,000 off today's price, Ford warranty until 2020...**£24,999**

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15 FORD KUGA TITANIUM 4X4 AUTOMATIC (180bhp), Frozen White, half leather, upgraded alloys, privacy glass, roof rails, DAB radio, cruise control, 12,000 miles only, simply outstanding...**£14,999**

14 BMW 120D SPORT X-DRIVE SE 5DR, Alpine White, Full Leather Interior, Satellite Navigation, Bluetooth, Alloys and full electric pack, one owner car with only 39,000 Miles.....**£11,999**

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15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-TEC+, crystal white, panoramic roof, sat nav, reversing camera, Bluetooth etc..... value at **£12,499**

15 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 SE, storm grey metallic, full leather trim, heated seats, A/C etc, 18,000 miles only.....**£10,499**

15 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 DESIGN 5DR, aqua blue metallic, alloys, A/C, CD/radio, 23,000 miles only.....**£7,999**

15 NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC 1.5 DCI 6SPD, storm grey metallic, sat nav, reversing camera, Bluetooth, A/C, £20 road tax.....**value at £11,999**

15 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 5DR, moondust silver, A/C, alloys, Bluetooth etc, 24,000 miles only.....**£7,999**

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63 FORD FIESTA 1.25 ZETEC 3DR, race red, A/C, Bluetooth, alloys, CD/radio etc, 19,000 miles only.....**value at £6,699**

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11 MINI 1.6 FIRST, Pepper White, alloys, A/C, CD/radio, elec pack.....**value at only £4,499**

61 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDI BLUEMOTION 5DR, light sapphire blue, A/C, alloys, CD etc, zero road tax, 62,000 miles only.....**value at £6,499**

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11 PEUGEOT 207 ESTATE STATION WAGON TD, in blue metallic.....**£3695**
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10 FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC 5DR, in red.....**£2995**
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53 AUDI TT COUPE, manual, silver/blue with cream leather.....**£2750**

AUTOMATICS

61 FORD FOCUS 2.0 TDI ZETEC AUTO.....**£5495**
56 VW JETTA 1.9 DIESEL AUTO, saloon, silver, 79,000 miles.....**£2495**
07 PEUGEOT 207 AUTO, black, 60,00 miles.....**£2295**
54 FORD MONDEO DEISEL ESTATE AUTO.....**£995**

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60 CITROEN DISPATCH LWB VAN side doors, 3 seats, 79k miles.....**NO VAT £4495**
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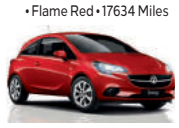
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Five star Linnets ease into next round of FA Vase

Burscough 5
Alsager Town 1

BURSCOUGH continued their run of cup form in the FA Vase when they put five past Alsager Town.

The Linnets have taken the first step towards Wembley after easing past Alsager with a commanding performance which impressed the supporters last Saturday.

Starting without injured centre-forward Chad Whyte, the Linnets still managed to run up five goals on the day to cruise through to the next round.

Burscough took the lead after 25 minutes, Will Doherty the player who had 'inherited' Whyte's number nine shirt finding the net.

However Burscough were soon pegged back as the Staffordshire based opposition equalised inside two minutes via their captain Ryan Goodwin.

One captain had struck for Alsager, in the 36th minute it was Burscough captain Danny Brady's turn to register on the score sheet and it was with the goal of the game. Brady setting off on a solo run before firing past visiting goalkeeper Rhys Bills.

Two minutes before half-time Burscough made it 3-1. An excellent team move put the ball to Terry Cummings he set Jordan Lorde up and the former Burscough Richmond striker added to his increasing local reputation by giving his team a cushion to take into the interval.

The game was effectively won just after the hour mark, Prince Ekpolo scoring to finish another good build-up.

It was all left to Lorde to score his second of the day 14 minutes from the end to send Burscough through to the Second Qualifying Round, where they will face the short but far from easy trip to Irlam on Saturday, September 15.

Whyte faces race against time to be fit for cup clash

BURSCOUGH make the trip to Warrington Town on Saturday in the FA Cup First Qualifying Round and although they travel as underdogs, their chances will certainly be enhanced if centre-forward Chad Whyte makes the starting line-up.

Whyte, who scored over 40 goals last season for the Linnets, is seen by many at Victoria Park as something of a talisman, but he received a nasty cut on his knee during last Monday's game at City of Liverpool requiring seven stitches.

A Burscough official said he is due to have the stitches out today (Wednesday, September 5) it is then a question of how badly his knee has reacted to the injury.

As stated last week, Warrington's assistant manager is former Burscough manager Mark Beasley, a man who actually lives in Burscough.

He allegedly left Burscough after a row with club officials, so he will be doing all he can to fire his team up for the match.

If a replay is required, that will be staged at Victoria Park on Tuesday, Septemner 11, kick off 7.45pm and the scheduled home league match for that night against Winsford United will be rearranged.

Skelmersdale United don't have a game scheduled for this Saturday, but might still have one.

The Evo-Stik League have told them that if last night's (Tuesday, September 4) FA Cup replay between Glossop North End and City of Liverpool ends in a defeat for Glossop, Skelmersdale will travel to play the Derbyshire based club on Saturday in a league game.

Chad Whyte

If the Glossop match doesn't materialise Skelmersdale's next game is a home Evo-Stik West Division encounter against current leaders Radcliffe, on Wednesday, September 12 at Prescot, kick off 7.45pm.

One bit of news for Skelmersdale supporters is that we understand an appeal has been lodged with the FA against the sending off of goalkeeper Terry Smith last Saturday. It will be heard later in the week.

If they are successful he will be available for their next game whether that be Saturday or next Wednesday.

If not they will have to bring in a keeper for the game or bring in Chris Cheetham, although Cheetham has joined Charnock Richard he is co-registered still for Skem and eligible to play.

Bohannon sees Lancashire home to a stunning victory

ORMSKIRK player Josh Bohannon played a starring role in Lancashire's stunning victory over Worcestershire in the County Championship Division One match at the S&B's Trafalgar Road ground last week, writes Glenn Wallworth.

Josh Bohannon in action. Picture by Simon Pendrigh

More than 6,000 spectators watched the match which was largely dominated by Worcestershire for the first two and a half days, before a remarkable fightback led by skipper Dane Vilas and 21 year old Bohannon.

It had looked like Lancashire were heading for certain defeat when Bohannon came into bat with the Red Rose county on 178-6 chasing an unlikely 319 for victory.

But Bohannon and Villas saw Lancashire claw their way back into the match and eventually triumph late on Friday afternoon, with ecstatic supporters on their feet as the winning runs were hit.

Local favourite Bohannon fully deserved his moment of glory on his former stomping ground in front of all his family and former team mates.

Playing in only his second championship match he cracked 14x4 in an unbeaten 78* and shared in a match winning 139 unbroken seventh wicket partnership with Vilas 107*.

He's got a bright future ahead at county level especially if he can keep up his current 58.33 first class average!

Northern's Tom Bailey also played a major part in Lancashire's four wicket victory, as his 4-41 and 3-53 took him top of the first division wicket taking charts with 48 for the season.

Rankin hits 86 in huge win for Ormskirk

SECOND placed Ormskirk had a huge 143 run win at relegated Highfield on Saturday, writes Glenn Wallworth..

Ormskirk chose to bat and thanks to runs from Alex Rankin 86, John Armstrong 67, Andy Baybutt 38* and Gary Knight 31* were able to declare on 236-3.

In reply 4-20 from Scott Lees and 4-28 from Ryan Maddock helped bowl out the hosts for just 93 to seal victory.

Formby just failed to force victory at Bootle when the match ended with nine wickets down for the home side.

Asked to bat first, Formby, Tim Smithies 49 and Ben Aitchison 428 top scored as they declared on 218-9, with Chris Liptrot taking 4-66. In reply, Danny Davies 44 and Vishal Tripathi 39 then top scored for Bootle who ended on 190-9 with Lukman Vahaluwala 3-27 and Sabbir Patel 3-44 taking the bulk of the wickets.

The 2018 Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier Division title is still undecided after Lytham's last pair denied leaders Northern the win they needed to lift the trophy at Moor Park.

Northern chose to bat and thanks to a century from Liam Grey 101 and 72 from Chris Laker were able to declare their innings on 236-8, with Josh Holden 5-42 and Lancashire's Steven Croft 3-38 on form with the ball.

In reply, Lytham slipped to 80-7 before a remarkable fightback from skipper Ben Saunders 86 and Matthew Taaffe 47 almost led the visitors to victory before time had the final say as they closed on 232-9, with spinner Tom Sephton taking his league wicket tally to 85 for the season with 7-110.

In the First Division Burscough live to fight another day after a 43 home win against Prestatyn.

Burscough were asked to bat and managed to post 191 up on the board thanks to vital runs from Jon Stone 61, Matthew Wright 48 and Ryan Hughes 42 with Peter Cassidy taking 4-71 with the ball.

In reply, Cassidy top scored with 51 as the visitors were dismissed for 148 with Hughes 5-51 and Brendan Domigan 4-45 doing the damage with the ball.

Skem nightmare as they concede nine

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Atherton Collieries 9
Skelmersdale United 1

A NIGHTMARE performance from Skelmersdale saw them concede nine goals against Atherton Collieries.

Skem opened the scoring when a corner was played to outside the 18 yard box to Tom Molyneux who cleverly found Paul Ennis with a low ball into the goalmouth. The Skem midfielder played a first time side foot shot across Bacon into the corner of the net to give Skem the lead.

In the next 15 minutes Bacon made saves from Yeldrem, Griffiths and Kevin Edgar as Skem pushed forwards and sought out a second goal.

Gradually Atherton came more into the game and equalised in the 24th minute, a poor clearance at the far post sent the ball skyward and when it dropped Ben Hardcastle had the space to control it and place it inside Skem goalkeeper Terry Smith' right-hand post from ten yards.

Four minutes later a corner from the left saw Ian Rowlands run in at the far post and rise above the defence and head firmly into the net to make it 2-1.

In the 38th minute Ben Conway played a ball to feet to striker Jordan Cover, who dummied his marker and sent the ball low into the Skelmersdale net to make it 3-1 with his right foot.

Skelmersdale were still posing a fair old threat to Atherton though, but that all ended on the stroke of half-time when a disastrous long distance back pass from Molyneux went straight to Cover who was in acres of space. He had a simple task of rounding keeper Smith and rolling the ball into an empty net.

Goals in 54 and 64 minutes made it 6-1 to Atherton. The first saw former Skelmersdale player Gareth Peet loft the ball to the far post from the left, as it dropped a completely unmarked Rowlands was able to stroke the ball into the far corner.

For the second Hardcastle had a shot blocked and the rebound fell perfectly to Cover, who completed his hat-trick by blasting through a group of players.

The last six minutes of the game were an absolute horror show from a Skelmersdale perspective.

First keeper Smith inexplicably dropped what was a simple pick up and in the effort to grab the ball felled Cover, and then the referee rather cruelly red carded the keeper.

Substitute Jack Fleming who is a full-back by trade went into goal, Hardcastle putting the resultant penalty in via a post.

Hardcastle went on the score a personal third and fourth goal, first blasting a shot high into the Skelmersdale goal then getting another from the penalty spot.

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